



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire.
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is in circulation and reputation the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades in the British Empire and other countries in the Old and New Worlds. It is the official journal of nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies.

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In the Coloured Supplement.

Canadian News.	New Books.
Coming Events.	Our American Letter.
Efficiency in Marketing.	Transvaal News.

ARE YOU PREPARING

for bigger business in the forthcoming year? Very probably every reader of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is hoping to do more, and we hope he will. Meanwhile we can assist by distributing

YOUR PRICE-LISTS OR CIRCULARS

to twelve thousand picked buyers of chemists' supplies in business all over the world. The distribution will take place in the Winter Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, to be published in January next, but, the Christmas holidays intervening, it is advisable to put the matter in hand at once. Write to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., and ask him all about such things

AS INSERTS IN THE WINTER ISSUE.

SUMMARY.

Being a first glance at the articles and events reported in this Issue.

Articles and Communications.

A seasonable handbill is reproduced on the next page.

The sale of cocaine is discussed by "Xrayser II." (p. 47) and by correspondents (p. 65).

Notes on seven new books telling what is in them are printed in the Coloured Supplement.

We reprint from our issue of December 15, 1863, an official letter regarding the sale of orange-quinine wine (p. 68).

Mr. C. C. Bell relates the history of the introduction of saffron into England, controverting a statement by "Xrayser II." (p. 66).

Under the German Spirit Centrale system potato spirit is 5d. per proof gal. dearer than English spirit. We discuss the position in an article on p. 48.

Professor Remington, of Philadelphia, writes sagely in regard to the responsibility of pharmacists, and how it is blunted by excessive legislation (p. 34).

The Institute of Chemistry has stiffened its requirements regarding microscopy in Branch E of its Associateship examination. At a conference of professors of chemistry, Dr. A. W. Crossley spoke about the inexperience of his students, and advocated the admission of University Honours Graduates direct to the Associateship examination (p. 49).

National Insurance Act.

The revised Drug Tariff is being approved in most centres. The prices for the appliances added to the Second Schedule are given under London, in the section beginning on p. 56.

The nominations for the County Pharmaceutical Committees show that the territorial basis is being closely followed. In Essex, where certain centres want over-representation, there is a considerable excess of nominees over vacancies (p. 57).

The Manchester system of medical benefit is to be carried on for another year. The tendency to excessive ordering of medicine threatened to produce dissensions in the chemists' camp, but these have been settled amicably. Salford chemists are contemplating reductions in the Drug Tariff to make ends meet—i.e., giving a discount on the Tariff to avoid discounting at the year's end (p. 58).

News of the Week.

Cerebos, Ltd., have recovered 100% damages for libel from the "Winning Post" (p. 40).

Mr. John C. Umney delivered a lecture to the Society of Arts this week on perfumes. It is epitomised on p. 35.

Mr. Septimus Vaughan Morgan, who originated THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, died on Tuesday morning (p. 51).

Professor Geddes suggests as an expansion of town-planning that a census of scientific industries should be taken (p. 54).

The Coloured Supplement contains paragraphs on about a score of subjects, and one or other of them may be of importance to you.

An aerated-water maker has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment for filling Paul's syphons with his own product (p. 39).

Soil sterilisation and the use of enzymes in the leather industry are the subjects of communications to the Society of Chemical Industry (p. 55).

The Pharmaceutical Council had a short meeting this week. It was decided to submit proposals for reorganisation to local Associations (p. 53).

The Rochdale County Court Judge has decided that the wages of insured persons must be paid in full while they are receiving sickness benefit (p. 40). This agrees with our contention last week.

Trade and Market Matters.

Castor oil, euonymus-bark, tolu balsam, thymol, orange oil, and W.I. tamarinds are more or less dearer. Balsam per, opium, and cassia oil (c.i.f.) are the turn easier. Shellac, vanilla, menthol (c.i.f.), Japan mint oil (e.i.f.), glucose, cocoa-butter, and turpentine are cheaper (p. 61).

Responsibility a Great Asset.

By Joseph P. Remington, Ph.M., Phar.D.

IN these days of pharmaceutical legislation "in excess" the harassed pharmacist can almost be excused for objecting to being legislated out of business. It would almost appear as if the chemist and druggist is not to be trusted by the dear public, and that he is a fellow of the baser sort, determined to poison his customers right and left and make it easy as possible for the suicide to "shuffle off this mortal coil." Common sense should teach everyone that it would be contrary to every business instinct to lose a single customer, and death would be about the quickest way to part with him, and nothing is more destructive to financial success than carelessness in dispensing. I assert without the slightest fear of contradiction that there is no profession in which more care is used in preventing mistakes in serving the public. When one thinks of the millions of prescriptions which are daily compounded throughout the world without the loss of a single life through accident or carelessness, some realisation of the worth of the daily services of the chemist and druggist in combating death may be had.

From one point of view there may be some excuse found for resistance on the part of the pharmaceutical profession to the avalanche of preventive legislation common to all countries; but, on the other hand, is not personal responsibility the chief asset in our business relations with the public? Self-medication is increasing by leaps and bounds; the knowledge of the use of medicines (more or less erroneous) is taught every day through the newspapers, patent-medicine advertisements, bill-posters, and signs so profuse around our railway stations that the foreign traveller has difficulty in telling the name of the station. An American traveller visiting England for the first time said to the writer once that he could not understand why so many railway stations were named "Bovril." When it was explained that "Bovril" is a popular food and that the railways encourage the decoration of their stations with advertisements, his second question was, "Do the railways have to eke out their existence by advertising signs for medicines?" Responsibility in tendering medical advice is clearly not an asset with railways.

But to return to the chemist and druggist. Should not responsibility be welcomed and encouraged in every way? When a patient can get a medicine accompanied by a circular giving full directions for use for a multitude of diseases, why should he consult a physician or patronise a pharmacist if he can buy a hand-me-down served by an uneducated boy or girl in a department store at a cut-rate price? Should not the chemist and druggist, who has spent years in fitting himself by study and research, be regarded by the customers as a safe adviser in time of sickness? Should he not advise a customer to consult a physician? Should not the physician appreciate such a one who gives safe and disinterested advice? Lastly, does not the customer in the majority of cases realise the value of such advice?

The writer was present recently at a meeting of one of the Sections of the Eleventh International Congress of Pharmacy at The Hague when a restrictive law in Belgium was being discussed, and he ventured to express the belief that the *personal responsibility* of the dispenser is an asset and not a thing to be evaded. The dispensing of poisons, and, in fact, all other medicines, should be limited by law to those who are qualified by law to exercise the function. Probably these views, which are not at all original, received a first impulse from the fact that in America a number of large companies with plenty of capital have been organised to buy up hundreds of drug-stores, in many cases forcing out of business (through one-sided competition) the individual pharmacist in the town. A manager, often a stranger in a neighbourhood, is put in charge of the pharmacy. Some name like the "Palace Pharmacy" or "Girard Pharmacy," or even the name of the huge concern in New York is the

only sign. The stock and medicines are not selected by the individual managing the store, but come from the factory of the company and are often transported hundreds of miles. The manager often loses his position and a new man takes his place. The profits are, of course, turned into the company; is it possible for a manager who is working for a salary to feel the same responsibility that an individual pharmacist would? The latter knows that his earnest efforts and ability increase his personal responsibility, but the profits are his; he does not have to divide the responsibility or the profits with anyone. This subject is well understood by the public which he serves, and every man in any business throughout the world is entitled to the business of his neighbourhood.

When pharmacy is regarded solely as a business occupation, and pounds, shillings and pence, dollars and cents, francs and marks become the standards of success, then has pharmacy little claim to being considered a profession. Responsibility may be limited only to serving a master living a thousand miles away, and this master looks usually to the financial reports of the manager in Oshkosh or Kalamazoo. The manager is not selected for his ability to make preparations himself, but everything—lime-water, simple syrup, ready-made pills, infusions and tinctures, etc., etc.—must be furnished from the factory. No one can blame the corporations for doing business to make as much money for the company as they can. But the pharmacist who has no professional pride in his calling, and cares for nothing but the money in his till, has himself to blame. By industry, perseverance, and attention to the details by supplying freshly made emulsions, infusions, pills made from the best materials after careful selection, and gaining the respect of the physicians in his neighbourhood through his ability and conscientiousness, he will prove to be more than a match for the manager on the next corner. There are mercenary and unprincipled men in all professions, but the real physician and pharmacist is one who loves his profession and must be prepared to make many sacrifices, but his reward is far greater if he is willing to accept *responsibility as an asset* and not a thing to be evaded or dismissed.

A SEASONABLE HANDBILL.

Christmas, 1913.

"What shall we buy them for Christmas?"

Always on the look out for articles of attractiveness and utility. Submit the list below as a help to you in the choice of Xmas gifts. It comprises goods novel and reasonable. Space does not allow for more than the shortest descriptions. Please see my windows and cases.	
TOILET BRUSH SETS Imitation Tortoise-shell Tray 3/- Brush & Comb 1/- the Set 12/- White Tray 2/- Brush & Comb 1/- the Set 8/-	CHRISTMAS GREETING SACHETS Most acceptable to the receiver. 1d. and 2d. each.
SAFETY RAZORS Maw's "Admiral" at 2/- "Invincible" at 1/- More expensive ones to order by return of post	VACUUM FLASKS Keep hot liquids hot for 24 hours. Exceedingly useful. Leather covered body, special price, 2/-1/- Extra Quality, 4/-
GENTS' SAFETY SHAVING OUTFIT Complete in case, with Brush, Soap and Mirror, 7/-	INDIA RUBBER HOT WATER BOTTLES Guaranteed Quality, 4/-, 5/-, 5/- and 6/- each. Earthenware Bottles, non-leaking, at 2/-, 2/- and 2/-
PARLOUR FIREWORKS Spiraline amusement for boys—an entertainment 2s. 6d. and 3/-	PERFUMES Perfume Sprays A selection of choice patterns at 2/-, 2/-, 3/- and 3/-
LADIES' BRUSH AND COMB SETS IN CASES White or Black, 2/-, 3/- and 3/- With mirror, cases lined with satin at 4/-, 5/-, 6/- and 8/-	SMELLING BOTTLES Silver mounted at 1/-, 2/-, 3/- Lavender Salts at 6d per bottle.
BRUSH SETS Mrs. Austin Bayes' Comb and Mirror (twisted case) Best quality available or best Economy, 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 6/-, 7/-, 8/-, 9/-, 10/- etc.	GENTS' MILITARY BRUSHES In Leather Cases—Satinwood or Ebony—several styles. 1/-, 3/-, 4/-, 6/-, 10/- Fair celluloid Brushes, without Case, 10/-
HAND MIRRORS Many patterns in silver, white celluloid and real ebony. 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 6/- and 7/-	SHAVING MIRRORS AND STANDS Shaving Brushes, Razors, Hot Water Lamps, Mugs and Soaps at all prices.
CONCENTRATED PERFUMES Cobaltine Tubes at 1/- each	NAIL SCISSORS, NAIL CLIPPERS Manicure Instruments, Soap Cases, Puff Boxes, Perfume Safes, etc., etc.
POCKET TOILET CASES 6d. and 1/- each	MANICURE SETS 1/-, 2/-, 3/- and 4/-
Appreciating your past favours I wish you to COME AND HELP YOURSELF From my Spray of Fine Old English Lavender Water.	

J. Austin Bayes,

Chemist and Pharmacist,

Fenny Stratford, BLETCHLEY.



The original measures 12½ by 8½ in., and is printed in holly-green ink.

Popular Perfumery.

MR. J. C. UMLEY, F.C.S., on December 3 lectured before the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C., on "Perfumery." Mr. Thomas Tyrer, F.I.C., was in the chair, and there was a good attendance, which included several pharmacists and perfumers. The lecturer recalled the paper which Rimmel read before the Society in 1860, which was chiefly noticeable for the complete history of the subject that it included. Rimmel's classification of perfume materials was of a simple character, and has been replaced by more modern methods. Mr. Umley referred to his lectures before the Pharmaceutical Society in 1912, in which he employed a classification according to the chief chemical constituents of essential oils, leaving a few unclassified—orris, wintergreen, sandalwood, and ylang-ylang. Methods of extraction were next dealt with, lantern-slides being shown to illustrate the various methods. Enfleurage with hot or cold fats was described. Cold enfleurage is employed for plants of delicate odour, such as jasmin, and it was pointed out that, according to Passy, nine times as much volatile oil is developed in jasmin during the process of cold enfleurage as originally existed in the freshly plucked petals. The use of volatile solvents for perfume extraction is increasing, petroleum ether being employed. Enfleurage yields pomades, while the extractives obtained by solvents are described as concretes or absolutes if free from fat and wax. Next, Mr. Umley referred to the sponge and écuelle processes for obtaining the essential oils of citrus fruits, the methods and apparatus being described. Machine-made bergamot oil is now being prepared with the characters of the very finest oil. Distillation as applied to other raw perfume materials was then described, and the progress that has been made in perfecting the stills. Lantern-slides were freely used, among the scenes being some of peppermint distillation at Mitcham. The various commercial enterprises connected with the production of perfume material were then enumerated, the demand for various products leading to extensive cultivation. This included references to proposals made to the Dominions Royal Commission by Mr. Eugene Barrett (of J. & E. Atkinson, Ltd.) and the lecturer, that cultivation of some of the raw materials might be taken up by the Colonies. The classification of essential oils according to their chemical constituents was next dealt with, samples of various oils arranged on this system being exhibited. The use of synthetic esters as adulterants was then referred to, and the analytical difficulties which have had to be faced in detecting these additions. The disinfecting properties of essential oils came in for notice, and an interesting résumé was added of the progress of the manufacture of synthetic perfumes. The closing remarks of the lecturer were: "The perfumery industry is a world-wide one, and the sources from which the primary materials are drawn are perhaps more general than in any other branch of commerce. This wide distribution means naturally close commercial contact with many nations, and the bonds of science in investigation of these products are becoming of considerable and increasing importance in the promotion of good feeling between many of the countries of Europe as well as of other continents."

DISCUSSION.

The Chairman opened the discussion by an interesting speculation as to what would have happened if, instead of aiming at colours, Early Victorian chemists in this country had turned their attention to synthetic perfumes. There would have been very little difference, he thought, as there would have been the same difficulties of inducing capitalists to assist a new perfume industry as in the case of aniline dyes. Mr. J. Grossmith said the paper was perfect and beyond criticism. Mr. P. Samuelson had never listened to a more interesting lecture, and Mr. E. H. Brittain referred particularly to the excellent lantern-slides. Mr. C. P. Ogilvie spoke of the forests of orange-trees in Paraguay, which had been planted by the Jesuits; and Dr. Henry, of the Imperial Institute, recalled several cases where Governments within the British Empire have aided the establishment of perfume plant farms. The lecturer briefly replied.

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the letter of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. William Southern, 90 Deansgate, Bolton, has been granted a licence for the sale of agri-horticultural poisons.

A sum of 400*l.* has been set aside for the supply of medicines, etc., next year at the Lambeth Borough Council's Tuberculosis Dispensary, Effra Road, Brixton, London, S.W., as compared with 100*l.* during the current year.

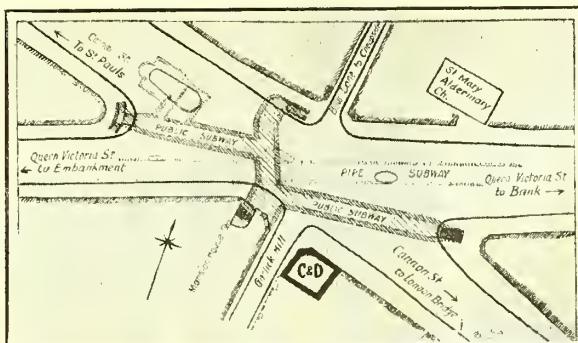
A poison-licence was granted by the Buckinghamshire County Council on November 27 to a seedsman named Smith. Both the Bucks Chemists' Association and the Central Bucks Pharmaceutical Association had opposed the application.

"Why Percy Left Home" was presented at the Rhyl Pavilion on November 28 "by Mr. Percy J. Ashfield and the talented company known as the Rhyl Dramatic Society," says the local "Journal," which adds: "Mr. Ashfield's 'John Smith' left nothing to be desired."

Mr. James Fielden, chemist, 313 Oldham Road, Rochdale, sent his errand-boy upstairs to look for some black varnish, and the boy accidentally set fire to some paper. The flames got beyond the youth's control, but with the aid of two police-officers and neighbours the fire was put out. The damage to stock is estimated at about 15*l.*

A City Subway.

Outside the offices of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is one of the busiest street crossings in the British Empire. At this point Cannon Street and Queen Victoria Street cross each other, and 24,000 vehicles pass every working day. Although a staff of police control the traffic, many accidents occur to pedestrians who desire to



cross the street. With a view of minimising the inconvenience and danger to the public, and to obviate the congestion caused by the frequent holding up of vehicular traffic, a passenger subway has been constructed with five exits, at a cost of 17,000*l.* The engineering difficulties were considerable, owing to the fact that a pipe subway passing under Queen Victoria Street had to be diverted, and the position of the numerous underground pipes and cables in Cannon Street had to be altered. The work, which has taken many months to carry out, is almost completed, and on December 2 the greater part of the passenger subway was opened by the Lord Mayor of London. This is the third subway to be constructed in the City of London, and it embodies many improvements which experience has dictated. As the subway gives access to the Mansion House Station on the District Railway, next door to the C. & D. offices, it is used by many thousands of railway passengers, and already a relief is noticeable in the street traffic. The illustration given here is a plan of the subway showing the street connections.

The Drug Club.

The winter general meeting of the members of the Drug Club was held in London on Tuesday, December 2, at the

Cannon Street Hotel, Mr. C. A. Hill, B.Sc., F.I.C. (The British Drug Houses, Ltd.), and President of the Club, being in the chair. Mr. Hill was re-elected President; Mr. Charles A. Dunn (Messrs. G. Curling, Wyman & Co.) was re-elected Vice-President; and Mr. T. Edward Lescher (Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd.) was re-elected Secretary. In the evening the members dined together in the Café Royal.

Royal Institution.

The Christmas course of lectures on astronomy adapted to a juvenile auditory will begin on December 27, the lecturer being Professor H. H. Turner, Savilian Professor of Astronomy, Oxford. Among the lectures arranged for the new year are two by Sir T. H. Holland on petroleum supply from the geological point of view, three by Professor C. F. Jenkin on heat and cold, two by Dr. C. W. Saleby on eugenics, two by Dr. J. A. Harker on "The Electric Emissivity of Matter," and six by Professor Sir J. J. Thomson on "Recent Discoveries in Physical Science." The Friday evening meetings will commence on January 23, when Professor Sir James Dewar will discourse on "The Coming of Age of the Vacuum Flask."

Sir William Crookes and the Royal Society.

Sir William Crookes, O.M., was elected President of the Royal Society at the Anniversary meeting in Burlington House on Monday, December 1, and was duly installed. In the evening a dinner was given in the Hôtel Métropole. Responding to the toast of "The Royal Society," proposed by the American Ambassador (Dr. Page), Sir William said that from his earliest days the Royal Society exerted on him a stimulating influence. It was in 1850 he first attended a meeting in the Society's rooms at Somerset House, when he heard Michael Faraday read his paper on "The Magnetic Properties of Oxygen Gas." More than fifty years ago he was elected a Fellow, and in November 1863 he was received into the Society by Sir Edward Sabine, and he signed the noted book of signatures. On the same page as his own occur the names of Sir William Huggins, Sir Archibald Geikie, Sir Charles Murchison, David Livingstone, Sir William Flower, Sir William Jenner, Lord Tennyson, and Sir John Evans. He had the extreme honour of being the only chemist—with the exception of Sir Humphry Davy—who has occupied the presidential chair.

Thanksgiving Day.

The American Society of London always celebrates Thanksgiving Day by a dinner at which ladies are present. This took place at the Savoy Hotel on Thursday evening, November 27, under the presidency of Mr. Fairbanks, Chairman of the Society, Mr. Fred M. Fisk (European manager to Parke, Davis & Co.) being the Vice-Chairman. There was a distinguished company, the speakers including Viscount Haldane, Sir John Simon, Dr. Page (the American Ambassador), the Earl of Kintore, Sir Claude MacDonald, and Mr. Fisk, who proposed the health of the Chairman. In responding, Mr. Fairbanks expressed the Council's appreciation of Mr. Fisk's work for the Society and predicted Mr. Fisk's success when he comes to the chair next year. Among the large company present were Mr. John Morgan Richards and members of his family, Mrs. George Fulford also being at his table; Mr. A. E. Holden (Fairchild Bros. & Foster), Dr. F. B. Power, and Mr. F. van Duzer.

Fairchild Scholarship and Prizes.

The syllabus for 1914 is now ready, and copies of it may be obtained, post free, from the Secretary to the Committee of Trustees, Mr. A. E. Holden, 64-65 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C. The scholarship is 50*l.* and the prizes 5*l.* each, one being reserved for each of the four countries in the United Kingdom. They will be awarded as the result of an examination in elementary chemistry, elementary materia medica, practical pharmacy and prescription reading, and elementary business knowledge. The examination will be held in London, Manchester, Belfast, Edinburgh, and Cardiff during the last week of the month of June 1914. Candidates whose railway fares from their places of employment to the nearest examination centre are more than 5*s.* third-class return

will have all in excess of that sum refunded after the examination, by the Secretary. No candidate will be admitted for the examination in 1914 who is less than twenty years of age on July 1, 1914, or who exceeds twenty-two on January 1, 1914. This is a change in the conditions which extends the limits of age to admit candidates who are six months younger than those admitted hitherto, so that it gives them the opportunity of competing more than once within the stipulated limits.

C.A.A. Dance

Dancers who wish to attend the first Cinderella dance of the Chemists' Assistants' Association this year at the Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., on December 11 should apply at once for tickets (single 5*s.* 6*d.*, double 10*s.*) to Mr. A. Haigh, The Dispensary, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., or Mr. W. P. Styles, 11 Brunswick Road, Kingston-on-Thames. Those who are acquainted with the sociable function, of which the dainty supper under such delightful conditions is quite a feature, hardly need this reminder, as their lady friends will not let them miss it, our note being for those who do not know the treat that can be secured at such slight expense.

Lambeth Union Dispensing.

The Lambeth Guardians in their scheme for reorganising the service for dispensing at the infirmary and for the outdoor poor, and for the analysis of drugs, proposed in future that Mr. P. S. Thomas, chemist and druggist, the infirmary dispenser, who also has charge of the Central drug-store, shall in future be known as the pharmacist to the Board, and be the dispenser for four medical-relief districts. The infirmary dispensing is to be in charge of an officer who can draw from the Central drug-store. Mr. Thomas is also to analyse drugs, but in the event of legal proceedings arising from dispute as to the quality of the drugs supplied by contractors, the Guardians will obtain the opinion of a specialist. In the few cases that Mr. Thomas has found that the drugs supplied were not in accordance with the requirements the contractors have accepted his decision, and made a subsequent good delivery. It is proposed to transfer Mr. E. Darch, chemist and druggist, at present in charge of the outdoor dispensary at Montford House, to the infirmary. Mr. R. Allison, who dispenses at Stockwell Road Dispensary for three medical districts, having reached the age of sixty-five, is to retire on a superannuation allowance of 14*l.* a year. In three of the outer districts, where patients have to travel a considerable distance to the Stockwell Road Dispensary, it is proposed to make arrangements with six or eight chemists in various parts of the districts at Insurance rates. The new scheme closes the Montford House Dispensary, reducing the staff by one dispenser, and resulting in an annual saving of 32*l.*

Manchester Notes

The sensation of the week in the Manchester pharmaceutical world is the circular issued by Mr. Alf. Hershberg, a member of the local Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee, calling a meeting which is reported under National Health Insurance.

Chemists' shop-windows are assuming a Christmassy effect. Messrs. C. Midgley, Ltd., St. Ann Square, who have a very neat show of Dorset lavender water and preparations, and Messrs. Jeans & Co., pharmacists, Oxford Road, are among the first to tempt the buyer of presents.

Icilma preparations have recently been the subject of good window-displays by many of the local chemists, several of whom report remarkably good business following "the special offer" of a sixpenny box of Icilma preparations for 2*d.*, over 100 and 150 boxes being sold in two or three days by two of these.

Sheffield Notes.

Messrs. Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Wheat Bridge Mills, Chesterfield, are delivering in future, in the Sheffield area, all dressings and boxes by motor vans instead of by rail.

Mr. Newsholme, the Chairman of the Sheffield Board of Guardians, gave notice of motion on December 3 to rescind the minutes fixing a maximum salary for the dispensers and other officers under the Sheffield Board.

The Sheffield posting stations are ablaze with the red poster of the newly registered disinfectant, "Sylph," of Messrs. Newsholme, Ltd. Prominently displayed on Sheffield hoardings are also Mr. Bailey's (Matlock Bank) posters for his "Crystallites." It is not usual to find country pharmacists coming into Sheffield's camp.

Contracts.

St. Faith's (Norwich) Guardians.—Mr. J. Cossey, chemist, Norwich, for trusses.

Salford Town Council.—Tenants (Lancashire), Ltd., for the supply of 1,800 tons of sulphuric acid during the next twelve months, at 38s. per ton.

The Rochford (Essex) Guardians on November 25 adopted a recommendation from the Tenders Committee that the invitations for tenders for supplies of drugs be deferred until next March. An objection was raised by a Guardian that in the meantime they were going to London for drugs without obtaining tenders, but his motion was outvoted.

London County Council.—For annual supplies of first-aid and nursing appliances: Arnold & Sons, (estimated value of contract) 28*l.*; Carnegie Bros., 34*l.*; Cuxson, Gerrard & Co., Ltd., 23*l.*; Hospitals and General Contracts Co., Ltd., 7*l.*; S. Maw, Son & Sons, 13*l.*; Benjamin Pratt & Co., 80*l.*; Sangers, 204*l.*; Surgical Manufacturing Co., 18*l.*; W. G. Taylor, 31*l.*

Metropolitan Asylums Board.—S. Maw, Son & Sons and R. Addis & Son, for tooth-brushes; R. Hovenden & Sons, for combs; Bovril, Ltd., Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Ltd., Brand & Co., Ltd., International Plasmon, Ltd., Mellin's Food, Ltd., and Benger's Food, Ltd., Manchester, for annual supplies of meat-extracts and infants' foods; Barrett & Elers, Ltd., for a six months' supply of carbonic-acid gas.

From Various Courts.

At Pontypridd, Morgan Morgan has been sent for trial on a charge of burgling the pharmacy of Mr. Daniel Arnott, chemist, Taff Street, Pontypridd (*C. & D.*, November 29, index folio 798). Prisoner had been employed by Mr. Arnott to do odd jobs.

At Kendal on November 24, William Davies was sent to an industrial training-ship for three years for obtaining by false pretences, between October 24 and November 8, a number of flash-lights, etc., value 17*s.* 3*d.*, from Mr. Alfred Heap, chemist and druggist, 5 Finkle Street, Kendal. Prisoner represented that he had been sent for the goods by the local tradesman who employed him as errand-boy. Another youth, named Troughton, was bound over for a year for his connection with the affair.

At the inquest at Hackney on November 29 in regard to the death of a seven-year-old child, a woman, who was described as a friend of the mother, volunteered a statement that she had made some medicine which was given to the child, the ingredients being Irish moss, black treacle, laudanum, peppermint, and paregoric. She declared that this had always cured her three children. The Coroner, addressing the child's mother, said: "The jury wish to inform you that you were doing a very dangerous thing in administering paregoric and laudanum to a child. That kind of thing makes the child insensible and enfeebles it, so that it cannot complain. You had better always consult a doctor in cases of this kind." The verdict was "Death from natural causes."

PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL PHARMACOPIAS.—This is a most useful publication. The formulæ are given in condensed form, so that several thousands are included. It serves a double purpose. In the first place it gives the prescriber an idea of what combinations he may select in any given case; and in the second place it teaches him how various remedies may be combined to the best advantage. No medical man who actually writes prescriptions can fail to benefit by referring to this book from time to time; while for those who are unable to write a correct prescription it will prove simply invaluable. The book is produced in a handy pocket size, with somewhat sombre black boards. Might we suggest that future editions should be bound in flexible brown leather? We can strongly recommend this collection of medical formulæ, which, in the majority of cases, are models of perfection.—*The Medical Press.*

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Edinburgh.

Local "Rexall" chemists held their "three big free gift days" last week.

Messrs. Boots are advertising largely by posters, etc., their willingness to supply Christmas presents.

Mr. Alexander Fraser, J.P., has been elected, after a contest, Parish Councillor for West Linton, Peeblesshire.

At Inverleith on Wednesday, November 26, Pharmacy United F.C. (one goal) played a drawn game with the Eastern team.

A communication to a local paper, obviously emanating from someone well acquainted with pharmacy in the county, gives strong reasons why (as has now been done in Midlothian) doctors and chemists should be placed on the same basis in regard to dispensing for insured persons—i.e., the doctors should no longer be paid *per capita*.

Fife.

Mr. Charles Barclay, chemist and druggist, The Pharmacy, Glencraig, Fife, has been re-elected Secretary of the Ballingry Golf Club.

Mr. Peter Fenton, chemist, Cardenden, has presented a gold medal to the Ornithological Society of Auchterderran for the best Orpington cockerel bred by members only.

The British Aluminium Co., Ltd., which recently acquired the property of Gedsmill, Burntisland, for new works, has purchased the adjoining estate of Colinswell and its mansion-house, with immediate possession.

Mr. David Storrar, Kirkcaldy, gave an address at a recent meeting of the local Naturalists' Society, in the course of which he showed that while Fife is a rich field for the geologist, the slopes of the Lomonds and the Laigh of Fife are happy hunting-ground for the botanist, the "grey mantle" covering many fine old ruins dear to the antiquarian.

The Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors of Cowdenbeath have, under the Shops Act, 1912, ordered that all shops in which the business of chemist, druggist, and pharmacist is carried on shall be closed for serving customers at and after the following hours respectively: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 8 p.m.; Fridays, 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 10.30 p.m.; and Wednesdays (weekly half-holiday), 1 p.m. A paragraph of the Order states that:

"Where any trade or business other than the retail trade or business of chemist, druggist, and pharmacist is carried on in any shop to which this Order applies, such shop may be kept open after the closing hour . . . for the purpose of the first-mentioned trade or business alone."

The rest proceeds to show that the keeping open is for "the trade or business of medicine and medical appliances."

Glasgow and the West.

Glasgow Pharmacy F.C. made a goalless draw in their match on November 26.

Mr. J. Reid Douglas, Ph.C., Leith Walk, Edinburgh, has joined the staff of Messrs. Frazer & Green, Ltd., chemists, Glasgow.

Claims against the late Mr. John Daniel, chemist and druggist, Dumfries, are to be lodged with Mr. William Moodie, solicitor, Dumfries.

Claims against the late Mary Townsend, widow of Thos. Townsend, manufacturing chemist, Glasgow, should be lodged with Messrs. Fyfe, McLean & Co., 115 St. Vincent Street.

The partnership between Mr. S. B. Cortis Stanford and Mr. Alexander Wylie, sole partners of Stanford & Wylie, Argyle Oil Mills and Chemical Works, Possilpark, Glasgow, has been dissolved by mutual consent through the retirement of the former.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. W. J. McElhinney, Ph.C., late manager of Johnston's Pharmacy, Ranelagh, is opening a business on his own account at 69 Morehampton Road, Donnybrook, Dublin.

Mr. James B. Balger, Ph.C., Maryborough, has been appointed dispenser and secretary to the Joint Committee of Management of the Maryborough Infirmary, at a salary of 60*l.* per annum.

The Belfast Corporation has renewed the poison-licences held by Mr. William Hamilton and Mr. James A. Wilson, of Messrs. Alexander Dickson & Sons, Ltd., seedsmen and florists, Royal Avenue.

The Dublin Strike

is having a serious effect upon those businesses which depend mainly on imported products. In the case of drugs and perfumery arriving at the Port of Dublin it is impossible to obtain delivery. As much of the perfumery is intended for Christmas trade this will mean a great loss to many chemists.

Dublin Housing.

An inquiry is being held by inspectors of the Local Government Board into the housing conditions of Dublin, and many witnesses have been examined. On November 27 Alderman Dr. J. C. McWalter, Ph.C., gave evidence. He said that approximately 10,000 families live in Dublin in unhealthy conditions. The cost of rehousing, he suggested, should be divided between the State and the local authority. The influence of the slum-owners is very strong with the Corporation of Dublin.

Administering an Estate.

In the Irish Chancery Division last week, Mr. John McClement, J.P., chemist and druggist, Newtownards, co. Down, administrator of the estate of Joseph Bennett, applied for liberty to pay capitalised sums representing the proportionate value of certain annuities to the several parties in the will, instead of paying them the proportionate annuities, so as to enable the estate to be immediately wound up. The Master of the Rolls made the order sought.

Fires.

The fire brigade received a call on November 29 to the premises of Mr. J. Robinson, druggist, 137 Antrim Road, Belfast, where an outbreak of fire had occurred. The damage done was slight.

On December 1 a destructive fire took place at the premises of Mr. Samuel Gibson, wholesale druggist and oil merchant, 71-73 King Street, Belfast. The outbreak took place in a three-storey building in the rear containing barrels of paraffin oil and heavy chemicals. The fire had got a firm hold when the fire brigade arrived, and soon it was evident that the store could not be saved, and efforts were confined to limiting the fire area. It was not until the firemen had been at work for five hours that the fire was completely extinguished. The damage amounts to about 4,000*l.* and is covered by insurance.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

ANTI-TYPHOID VACCINATION.—Professor Labbé has deposited at the offices of the Senate a draft law proposing to render anti-typoid vaccination compulsory in the French Army. The matter has been referred to the Military Committee for consideration.

M. EMILE KOHN-ABREST, who has been appointed head of the Paris Laboratory of Toxicology, in succession to the late M. Ogier, was for ten years his collaborator.

M. Kohn-Abrest has made numerous and interesting studies on poisonous gases, alkaloids, and allied subjects.

THE GENEVA CROSS.—A feature of the Paris streets last week was the house-painter busy at work changing the colour of the Red Cross which so frequently adorned the outside of pharmacies, ambulance companies, herbalists' shops, and nursing homes here. This is in consequence of the decree limiting the use of this emblem to the three-Ambulance Associations approved by Government and its prohibition for commercial purposes. Most of the owners of the signs retain them and merely change the colour of the cross. Green has been adopted in some cases, but the result is not nearly so effective as the striking red.

REDISPENSING OF PRESCRIPTIONS.—The leading feature of last week's meeting of the Academy of Medicine was the question of the redispensing of physicians' prescriptions. The majority of the speakers submitted that a medical prescription is only valid for one special and temporary stage of the patient's malady. They therefore hold that the abuse of prescriptions is flagrant, the most striking proof being the number of cases in which narcotic drugs are thus obtained. They argued that a prescription should not be dispensed a second time without the express permission of the doctor by whom it is written. One speaker (Dr. Hayem) said that "the public has such facilities for obtaining active drugs from pharmacists that most of the patients we are called upon to attend are afflicted with disorders of 'medicamentous' origin." The champions of the present practice retorted that the abuses complained of might be stopped by a much milder measure—viz., by prescribers marking prescriptions which are not to be renewed without the doctor's permission. MM. Mosny, Regnier, Fernet, and Lucet, and Professor Bourquelot took part in this lively discussion. Ultimately the following proposal, drafted by the committee, was adopted :

"No pharmacist shall redispense a prescription containing any poisonous substance included in Schedule A without the special indications of the doctor who wrote the prescription."

M. Hayem wished to add a rider dealing with patent medicines, but the Perpetual Secretary thought it would better to put this in the form of a separate resolution, and this it was decided should be done.

THE MONASTERY PHARMACY AT RAGUSA.—The destruction by fire of the ancient pharmacy of Ragusa Monastery, Austria, gives interest to the description of M. Maury, a French tourist, who visited it, apparently, by the merest accident. Hastening to avoid a shower, he ran into a staircase which led to a corridor, and this terminated in a cloister. A young man approached and very politely explained that the tourist was in the Franciscan Convent, of which he was pharmacist. He offered to show the visitor his pharmacy. Between the columns of the promenade, he pointed out the furnaces, still intact, on which the monks once prepared their medicaments. In the corridor stood presses and retorts, as old and as iridescent as the funeral urns on the tombs of Salona. The pharmacy itself, which opened on the cloister, had kept its old-world charm. The drug-jars adorned with mysterious inscriptions, still bore witness to the luxury with which the virtues of the preparations were surrounded. Finally, he led the visitor to his sanctuary—the laboratorium. Here, the present age was represented by a series of little phials carefully capped, labelled, and arranged in serried ranks. This is the "proprietary article" of the convent. Doubtless its preparation entails no undue labour, for close at hand retorts and apparatus of every kind slept peacefully under a blanket of dust. Why, therefore, does the Austrian Government require a qualified pharmacist to be kept? In such surroundings one would like to find the brother Medicamentarius of mediæval times. Do drugs prepared by pharmacopœial processes possess greater virtues than these strange preparations, wrapped in mystery which acts so strongly on the imagination? The obliging pharmacist conducted his French visitor over the city, and when asked for his name, simply jotted his address on a card: "Pharmacia, P.P. Franciscani, Ragusa," and refused to add more.

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, and to many other Chemists in business there.

The Commonwealth.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.—On October 10 Mr. Higgs asked the Treasurer a series of questions on National Insurance, and Mr. Glynn, in reply, said that the preparation of a scheme involved a great deal of research, inquiry, and consideration, and is being pursued with due expedition. The date when it is proposed to introduce a scheme of social insurance cannot at present be stated. Whether the scheme will be compulsory is necessarily one of the matters under consideration. Submission of the question to a referendum must depend on whether it is deemed necessary or not.

New South Wales.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.—The meeting on October 14 was occupied by a consideration of the replies to be given to a series of questions on National Health Insurance sent out by the Commonwealth Statistician. The importance of the decision was emphasised. It was decided to hold a special meeting on October 21 and afterwards to elect delegates to a Standing Committee. Mr. Umney's suggestions for a British Imperial Pharmacopeia were next considered, and it was agreed to communicate with the Under-Secretary for the Colonies through the proper channel. Mr. J. F. McKimm was co-opted to fill a vacancy on the Council.

THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—At a meeting of the Pharmacy Board in Sydney on October 14, the Registrar reported the result of an interview with Professor Anderson Stuart and Registrar Barff regarding the proposed establishment of a College of Pharmacy at the University. It was pointed out that the board would require two courses of lectures and practical work each year leading to the two Final examinations. That forty lectures and forty demonstrations with practical work be given in the year, each lasting two hours. The salary for the lecturer to be £300., and the assistant demonstrator £100. per annum. It was suggested that the students be charged a fee of £1. 5s. The board could not recognise any examiners other than those appointed by the board. Regarding the Preliminary examination, the Professor stated that the University would only grant a diploma to those passing the Junior University examination. The matter is to be dealt with at a special meeting.

Victoria.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. SHILLINGLAW.—The presentation of the testimonial to Mr. Shillinglaw in acknowledgment of his services to pharmacy during the past thirty-six years was made at the College of Pharmacy on October 13 by Mr. Murray, Chief Secretary of Victoria.

MELBOURNE METROPOLITAN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION.—This Association was constituted at a meeting held at the College of Pharmacy on October 21. The objects are "to increase the friendly relations between pharmacists and to watch their interests." Delegates are to be elected by the various sub-sections.

MR. C. J. GABRIEL has been co-opted to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. S. S. Strutt. Mr. Gabriel is the son of a pharmacist, and took over his father's business at Abbotsford in 1909. He is an authority on Victorian molluscs.

BRITISH IMPERIAL PHARMACOPEIA.—The Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia has transmitted the following resolution to the Chief Secretary:

"That this Council respectfully urges the Home authorities to favourably consider the desirability of pharmaceutical interests being directly represented in the revision and compilation of the British Pharmacopœia, and requests that the present system of publication should be broadened by the appointment of a Pharmacopœia Commission, on which medical men, pharmacists, and analytical chemists are represented."

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Fraudulent Syphon-filling.—At Marlborough Police Court, London, on November 28, Frederick Osborn, trading as Cox & Osborn, Ainger Road, Chalk Farm, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment in the second division for unlawfully selling two syphon bottles of aerated water to which the trade-mark of N. Paul & Co. was falsely applied, contrary to the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887. The sentence was given because the defendant had been fined for a similar offence £1., with £1. 3s. costs, at Marylebone, and at Highgate £1., with £1. 8s. costs. The Magistrate (Mr. Mead) refused the defendant's request to reconsider his decision.

Sale of Poisons.—At Kilrea Petty Sessions on December 1, Mr. James Hunter, Ph.C., Kilrea, was prosecuted by Sergeant Nevin for having "unlawfully sold to Mary Ritchie, a person unknown to him, a quantity of strychnine poison; that he failed before delivery of the poison to make an entry in the book kept for the purpose, stating date of sale, name and address of the purchaser, and purpose for which the article was bought." Mr. Liddle, solicitor, appeared for the defendant, and pleaded guilty, adding that the defendant was very busy at the time, and the woman got away before he had time to get particulars for the entry. No serious result had ensued, and he pleaded for leniency. Sergeant Nevin said the entry should have been made previous to the delivery of the article. A fine of £1., and costs, was ordered.

Drug Dispute.—In the City of London Court on December 2, before Judge Lunley Smith, K.C., the case of Burgoine, Burbidges & Co. v. Chorley & Co., which was partly heard in August and reported at the time in the columns of the *C. & D.*, was disposed of. Plaintiffs sued Chorley & Co., chemists, New Malden, Surrey, for £1. 19s. 3d. for drugs supplied in the ordinary course of trade. When the case was last heard Mr. E. Welfare, who appeared for the plaintiffs, said that the bailiff of the court had reported that Mr. Chorley was in Africa while the summons was issued against Chorley & Co. It then transpired that Mrs. Chorley was carrying on the business, and she had been served because, in fact, she was Chorley & Co. Mrs. Chorley told the Court that her husband was not carrying on the business, yet she did not have the goods sued for. She had paid for all she had, and she was sure her husband paid all his debts. The Judge was satisfied that Mrs. Chorley was not a member of the firm of Chorley & Co. The case had been adjourned to find out who are the partners, and it now transpired that the case had been settled by the parties out of court.—The same thing happened with another case, in which Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., had sued Chorley & Co. for £1. 17s. 4d.

High Court Cases.

Unless otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.

HEAVY ACTION POSTPONED.

In the Chancery Division on Tuesday, December 2, Mr. Justice Sargent, in making up his list for the term, inquired of counsel as to the probable length of the "warned" action of *Actiengesellschaft für Anilin Fabrikation* in Berlin v. Levinstein, Ltd. Mr. Romer, K.C., said it is a heavy action, and must take at least a week. His Lordship said, that being so, it would be impossible for him to try it during these sittings, and directed that the case should stand out until next term.

ALLEGED WRONGFUL DISMISSAL.

In the King's Bench Division on December 1, before Mr. Justice Coleridge and a special jury, Mr. Donald Kift, of St. Mary's Road, Canonbury, N., was awarded £250. damages against the London Metallic Capsule Co., Ltd., Rotherhithe Street, S.E., for wrongful dismissal from his position as secretary-manager. His Lordship entered judgment for that amount, with costs, and an account as to commission claimed by Mr. Kift; and the defendants were granted a conditional stay of execution, with a view to a possible appeal.

A HAIR-DYE ACTION.

Wheeler v. Boots Cash Chemists (Southern), Ltd. This action was mentioned to the Lord Chief Justice in the King's Bench Division on Friday, November 28. Mr.

Saxby, who appeared for the defendant company, said the action was due to be heard on December 3, and his application was that the hearing should be postponed until seven days after the plaintiff had answered certain interrogatories which were material to the issue. The plaintiff is a lady who claims damages for personal injuries which she alleged she received through using a hair-dye. In the statement of claim the lady alleged that the dye was composed of substances that are dangerous and deleterious. Interrogatories were demanded by the defendants with a view to ascertaining what are the substances of which the plaintiff complained, because it was perfectly obvious that the matter would have to be dealt with by experts. The Master ordered that the defendants should supply the plaintiff with a formula, that the substances of which the dye was composed might be known, and then the plaintiff would answer the interrogatories. The reply the plaintiff had given was: "The substances in the hair-dye were dangerous and highly deleterious to human hair." It was perfectly obvious, said counsel, that the defendants could not deal with the matter on that answer. Other proceedings had been taken in Chambers, and the answers to interrogatories were still being waited for.

Mr. Neilson objected on behalf of the plaintiff, and said that directly the plaintiff received the order to answer the interrogatories the answers would be supplied within an hour.

His Lordship said he would not interfere after hearing that undertaking.

Mr. Saxby said he would have to communicate with experts directly he received the answers, and that would take a few days.

His Lordship: I know it is difficult, but when things have to be done they can usually be accomplished.

The application was then refused.

In Mr. Justice Coleridge's Court on December 3, Mr. Holman Gregory, K.C., intimated that the parties had agreed as to terms, upon which judgment would be entered.

LIBEL ACTION BY CEREBOS, LTD.

In the King's Bench Division on Monday and Tuesday, December 1 and 2, the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury heard and decided in plaintiffs' favour an action for damages for libel brought by Cerebos, Ltd., Greatham, Durham, against the *Winning Post* (1906), Ltd., and Mr. F. J. Sellicks, the editor of the "*Winning Post*." Plaintiffs alleged that the defendants had libelled them in the issue of the "*Winning Post*" of March 29 last by inserting the following:

"Romano's is to be congratulated. It is one of those restaurants which have discarded Cerebos for real salt."

Mr. Holman Gregory, K.C., and the Hon. Alexander Shaw were for the plaintiffs; while the defendants were represented by Mr. Schiller, K.C., and Mr. Ogilvie.

Mr. Holman Gregory said the jury would remember that some years ago in wet weather ordinary table salt used to cake. About twenty years ago Mr. George Weddell discovered that by treating salt in a particular way that could be avoided. He laid the result of his experiments before the public, and the Cerebos Co. was formed with a large capital. Its factory is at Greatham, and it is equipped on the most scientific principles. Counsel explained that the brine is obtained from the salt deposits near by, and he described how Cerebos is made. He then took up the matter complained of. Why defendants should have gone out of their way to attack the plaintiffs he was at a loss to understand. Counsel was at this stage of his opening when the Court rose for the day.

On Tuesday he remarked that the suggestion the defendants made was that the plaintiffs are not honest tradesmen, but people who deal in a spurious article. There was no doubt that such a statement being published was calculated to do the plaintiffs great harm.

Evidence was then called.

Mr. Geo. Weddell, managing director of Cerebos, Ltd., said twenty years ago he devised a salt for use by his own family. He added phosphates to the pure salt with the object of keeping it dry and also to add to the salt the nutritious phosphates which are eliminated from the

food in the process of preparation and cooking. He saw possibilities in its extensive preparation, and formed a company. At the time he invented Cerebos salt he was in partnership with Sir Joseph Swan, F.R.S. In 1904 the company took large works at Greatham, Durham, where they have a large salt bed. This he described in detail, as well as the process of manufacture. In reply to counsel, he said that the company has the Royal Warrant to supply Cerebos salt to the Royal Family.

Mr. Holman Gregory: What is the percentage of restaurants in London using your salt?

His Lordship said he could not allow that question to be answered. "This is rather an advertisement for Cerebos salt. What I want to know is whether Cerebos is always distributed in special receptacles."

Mr. Holman Gregory: No; it is sold in tins, and can be used by the purchaser how he or she likes.

Replying to Mr. Schiller, witness did not agree that there is any chemical change in the salt by the elimination of extraneous matters and impurities and the addition of the phosphates.

Mr. Schiller: But we ate salt before you invented Cerebos. "Ah! but that was not very good salt," replied Mr. Weddell, amidst laughter. He added, in reply to other questions, that he had some very good photographs of the works he cou'd show the Court, whereupon his Lordship remarked: "And I have no doubt you have some very good advertisements in the newspapers." (Laughter.) In the course of the re-examination his Lordship also remarked as to Cerebos that "it is real salt with 3 per cent. of phosphates added and produced in a particular manner."

Dr. John Clough Thresh, F.I.C., etc., medical officer to the Essex County Council, said he used Cerebos salt a long time before he knew of the plaintiff company. He analysed it, and came to the conclusion that it is pure, and that the phosphates it contains are helpful to the human system. Witness added that his wife wanted him to purchase it because it did not pit the silver like ordinary table salt. (Laughter.)

His Lordship: In your view it is better to have this addition of phosphates than to leave salt as it is?—Yes. Replying to Mr. Schiller, witness agreed that Cerebos salt is not as pungent to the taste as ordinary salt.

Sir Thomas Oliver, consulting physician to the Newcastle Royal Infirmary, also gave evidence. He expressed the view that the addition of phosphates to salt is a distinct advantage from a dietetic point of view. He had visited the plaintiffs' works, and was impressed with the way the salt is produced.

Mr. W. H. Collins, plaintiffs' London manager, said the last order received from Romano's was on March 7, but the salt was being used there after the libel appeared.

After other evidence had been heard, Mr. Schiller submitted that the defendants had no case to answer. This was an innocent insertion of an innocent paragraph, he said, and there is no suggestion that defendants wished to injure the plaintiffs.

"Then why is Romano's to be congratulated?" asked his Lordship. "Because," replied counsel, "they have decided to use salt that is more tasteful and pungent." (Laughter.)

Mr. Sellicks, until recently editor of the "*Winning Post*," said he inserted the paragraph in question on the suggestion of Mr. R. S. Sievier, who dined at Romano's and objected to Cerebos salt. The paragraph was inserted when Mr. Sievier was told that Romano's were not going to use Cerebos salt again. Witness wrote the paragraph without any feeling against the plaintiffs or any ulterior motive. Witness added that he knew nothing against Cerebos salt. He inserted the paragraph simply to please Mr. Sievier.

Counsel having addressed the jury,

His Lordship summed up, saying in the course of his remarks that the question for the jury really was—Were those words not only an attack upon Cerebos salt but an attack indirectly upon the plaintiff company?

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiffs for 100/- damages, with costs.

Plaintiffs' counsel asked also for an injunction, but his Lordship said he thought the damages would be sufficient.

National Insurance Act.

SICKNESS BENEFIT AND WAGES.

The legal considerations discussed in the *C. & D.* editorial, November 29, index folios 810-811, were argued in the Rochdale County Court on November 28, before Judge Spencer Hogg, who gave judgment in a case which sustains the principle that we then submitted. The case was the first of its kind in this country. John William Travis, a confectioner's traveller, 31 Redcross Street, Rochdale, sued John Henry Ballinger, confectioner, 32 Baro Hill Street, Littleborough, for 6*l.* 18*s.*, the balance of wages alleged to be owing. Mr. J. A. Milns appeared for the plaintiff, and the defendant was represented by Mr. S. L. Coupe. The claim was first presented to the Court on October 31, when the Judge reserved his decision. When the case was again called on Friday, his Honour asked that it should be re-argued before he delivered his considered judgment.

Mr. Milns said it was admitted that the sum of 6*l.* 18*s.* had been withheld, and the real point at issue was as to the right of the defendant to retain that amount. The plaintiff was formerly in the employment of the defendant. There was a written agreement between the parties, but that agreement contained no reference to the payment of wages during sickness. From April 19 until May 24 this year the plaintiff was away from work on account of sickness. He was an insured person under the National Insurance Act, and on that account received 10*s.* a week. Illness again kept him away from work from June 14 to July 5, and he again received the Insurance Act allowance of 10*s.* a week. During this second illness he suggested to his employer that he should look out for a fresh employé, as he (the plaintiff) did not think that the state of his health would allow him to return to work. Ultimately the employer engaged another person; then the question arose as to the payment of the plaintiff's wages during the eight weeks that he had been ill. Thereupon the defendant refused to pay full wages for the eight weeks. He paid 5*l.* 8*s.* on account, and deducted 10*s.* per week for the eight weeks. On this there arose the point as to the power and right of an employer to retain the 10*s.* allowed under the National Insurance Act. The plaintiff's contention was that under the Insurance Act the employer had no right whatever to deduct amounts paid in sickness benefit. By Section 47 of the National Insurance Act an employer liable to pay wages during sickness had the option of availing himself of special provisions mentioned in that section, but the defendant had not exercised that option. Under Sub-section 12 of Section 47 the defendant was liable to pay full wages and the plaintiff was entitled to the full benefit offered by the Act. He had paid for those benefits and was clearly entitled to receive them.

Mr. Coupe admitted that substantially the issue was as Mr. Milns had described it. He (Mr. Coupe) would, however, refer his Honour to the case *Elliott v. Liggins*, decided in 1902 on appeal from a County Court Judge's decision. The principle established there was that when a workman is incapacitated by accident he is not allowed to make a profit out of his accident: he is not allowed to receive both wages and compensation. On the same lines an insured person under the Insurance Act is not entitled to claim full wages in addition to being paid the sickness benefit.

His Honour: In one case the person pays contributions for insurance purposes, and in the other case he doesn't.

Mr. Coupe: In the case of insurance against accident the employer has to bear the whole risk, and under the National Insurance Act the employer has to pay a portion of the total contribution. A workman ought not to be entitled to receive wages during the period of incapacity on account of illness. If he were entitled to his wages and the sickness benefit it would pay him far better to be ill than to be at work. In this case, in that event the plaintiff would receive 30*s.* a week when well and 2*l.* a week when ill.

His Honour: The point is not so simple as it looks.

Mr. Milns argued that the case *Elliott v. Liggins* could not apply to the present case, as the circumstances were different. Under the Insurance Act a workman pays for the sickness benefit that he receives, and in this case the

employer was obliged to pay the wages in accordance with the conditions of the employment.

Mr. Coupe argued that on the analogy of what happens under the Workmen's Compensation Act the employer is entitled to reduce the wages in case of his employé's illness by the amount of the sickness benefit the employé receives under the Insurance Act. The employer is not obliged to pay to the plaintiff a fixed sum as wages if he does not do the work contracted for. Mr. Ballinger had not agreed to pay wages during sickness.

Mr. Milns replied that there was a written contract of service, and added that it had been held that a servant is entitled to his wages during temporary illness, provided the contract of service remains in existence during that time. The Insurance Act did not alter the position.

Mr. Coupe remarked that the National Insurance Act did not help the Court much either way. He referred to two letters from the defendant to the plaintiff, in which the former plainly deducted from the wages the amount of the Insurance benefit, and in that way gave the latter notice that from that date he would not have his Insurance benefit in addition to his full wages. To make that change it was not at all necessary for the employer to terminate the employment and re-engage the plaintiff. It was quite sufficient if he intimated to him verbally or in writing that after a certain date he would not be liable for the 10*s.* a week out of the Insurance. The speaker admitted that there is a point of difference between pay-outs under the Workmen's Compensation Act and the benefits granted in case of sickness.

His Honour: There is nothing about insurance in the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Mr. Coupe agreed, but pointed out that under the Insurance Act the State, the employer, and the workman each pays a portion of the premium. They all three unite on purpose to give the workman a certain sum of money in case he should fall ill or be disabled from following his employment. It is only reasonable and right that if the employer has to pay a certain part of the weekly payments required under the Insurance Act he should be entitled to deduct, if not the whole of the 10*s.* from the wages, at least to deduct a proportionate part of it. It seemed hardly fair or right or equitable that the workman—

His Honour: Now, you are not dealing with a point of law. The Act of Parliament may not be right, but I am here to administer it.

Mr. Coupe: I say that the plaintiff is not entitled to make a profit out of his sickness. Seeing that he does not sustain the loss of the whole of his wages, and that a part of the loss through sickness is borne by the employer through the amount he has to pay weekly, I submit that the plaintiff ought to give credit for the Insurance money that he receives. In other words, the defendant is not bound to pay him the whole of the wages he would have in health, but is entitled to ask this servant to give credit for the amount he receives in respect to the sickness which disables him from carrying out his contract. Mr. Coupe further declared that the plaintiff had offered no evidence to show that there was an established custom to pay wages during sickness, and also that during the time he was away from work at the defendant's place by reason of illness he was doing work on his own account.

His Honour: If the plaintiff did that it may affect the matter.

Mr. Coupe: If I can produce evidence of that, I think I am entitled to bring it forward in mitigation of the plaintiff's claim. Finally, the speaker submitted that the defendant had not agreed to pay wages to the plaintiff "work or play," and that if he had made such an agreement and broken it the plaintiff should sue him for damages for the breach.

William Ballinger, a son of the defendant, was the only witness called. He spoke to visiting the plaintiff's shop while plaintiff was off ill and finding him serving customers in the shop.

His Honour delivered judgment in the following terms: In this case the amount in dispute is a small one, but inasmuch as I believe it is a custom in many trades for employers to deduct the sick benefit from a man's wages during sickness, the matter may be of considerable

importance. Here the workman remained in the employer's service during the period of illness, and during that period the workman received benefit of 10s. a week under the Insurance Act. Then the employer claims to be allowed to deduct from the wages the 10s. a week which the workman so received. There can be no question whatever that if the workman had, owing to his own thrift, insured himself in some insurance company and had thus obtained benefit during sickness, the master could have no possible power to deduct such benefit as the workman received. It is said in virtue of the fact that the employer pays half the premiums under the National Insurance Act he is therefore entitled to get the whole of the benefit under that Insurance scheme. The employer pays half and the workman pays half the premiums, but the employer here is saying that he must have the whole benefit. That is clearly wrong. The National Insurance Act compels employers and workmen alike to pay premiums for some benefit. It does not give any benefit whatever to the employer, but if sickness comes it does give the benefit expressly to the employé. Under these circumstances the employer has entirely failed to show me that he has any right to make any such deductions as he has done in this case, and the plaintiff, the workman, must succeed. There will be judgment for 6l. 18s. for the plaintiff.

Mr. Milns asked for a certificate for increased costs. He said the case was one of great importance, and involved a difficult point of law.

His Honour agreed, and allowed costs on the "A" scale.

BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

Re William Storey, 53 (late 35) Upgate and 2 Claremont Terrace, Kidgate, Louth.—The creditors include Evans Son Lescher & Webb, Ltd., London (20l.).

Re Joseph Abbott, 98 Queen Street, Exeter, Chemist and Dentist.—In Exeter Bankruptcy Court on December 3 this debtor applied for his discharge. The failure occurred on March 5, 1894. The liabilities were 1,800l. 15s. 3d., and the assets realised 266l. 15s. 1d. The Official Receiver narrated the history of the business and proceedings, adding that the bankrupt's conduct during the proceedings under his bankruptcy had been satisfactory. In answer to Judge Wilson, K.C., he said there was really no bad feature in the case. Debtor now submitted to judgment for the payment of 30l., at the rate of 1l. a month, and his Honour said when that amount was paid he would grant debtor an immediate discharge.

Re Wm. Eleder Williams, 73 Brighton Road, Gorson, and carrying on business at 12 High Street, Swansea, and 7 High Street, Treorky, Chemist and Druggist.—The public examination of this debtor took place at the Swansea Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar S. Horne, on November 28. The gross liabilities amounted to 3,000l., net liabilities 1,880l., and assets 95l., leaving a deficiency of 1,786l. Examined by Mr. Henry Rees (the Official Receiver), debtor attributed his position to heavy expenses—high rent, rates, and wages. The Official Receiver: "Is the chemist trade so profitable as it was?"—Debtor: "No." "That would be speaking generally?"—"Yes, in most large towns." "How do you account for it?"—"The companies coming in." "But the percentage of profit in the chemist trade is very high?"—"An average profit of 35 to 40 per cent., I suppose." Debtor said that his turnover at each of the two shops was about 800l. a year. He explained that he began business in October 1901, when he bought a chemist's business at Bridgend for 320l., the money for which he borrowed from his wife. He afterwards, in 1906, sold the business to Mr. Rich for 550l., when for the next two years he carried on a condiment business, which he had worked up himself. This was successful, but he had to give long credit, as the farmers were so "long-winded." The net result of that business was that he had exchanged a credit balance at the bank to a debit one of about 150l. His next venture was to open in September 1910 the business of a chemist and druggist at Treorky. The Official Receiver: "It is clear that you were insolvent when you started this business?"—Debtor: "Yes; but my wife had guaranteed me." In 1911 debtor put a manager into the Treorky business, and purchased the Swansea business from the executors of the late Mr. Moses Jones. His wife then increased a guarantee to the bank to the sum of 1,000l.

The Official Receiver: "You have got your wife down as a creditor for 1,000l.?"—Debtor: "Yes." "Have you had all that money in cash?"—"Yes, from time to time." "I see she is also guarantee to the bank to the extent of 1,000l. for an overdraft?"—"Yes." "She is guaranteed apart from this 1,000l. she has lent you?"—"Yes." "Is your wife now in a position to pay the guarantee?"—"No." "Any portion of it?"—"No, I do not think so." "So all your wife's money has gone in your businesses?"—"Yes." His wife had the money left her by her father in 1909, and, asked how the money had gone, debtor attributed a loss of 400l. owing to the stock being unsaleable at the present time. In 1908 he lost over 100l. in the purchase of hay, while 200l. was lost in the Bridgend business. The Official Receiver asked for a further statement on these matters, and the examination was adjourned. Mr. Ll. Howell appeared for the debtor and Mr. T. R. Harris represented a creditor. The following are creditors: Mrs. M. Williams, Gorseinon (1,000l.); Blyton, Astley & Co., Manchester (15l.); Burgoyne, Burbridges & Co., London (53l.); Butler & Crispe, London (20l.); Crown Perfumery Co., Homerton (1l.); Haywood & Co., Nottingham (23l.); Hodgkinson, Prestons & King, London (20l.); John Durant, Ltd., Bristol (18l.); Chas. Price & Sons, Swansea (100l.); J. Timson & Co., Ltd., London (13l.); Scientific Truss Co., London (12l.); J. Silver, Swansea (90l.); Sutton & Co., London (62l.); Swansea Press, Ltd., Swansea (15l.); Owen D. Stanley, Swansea (123l.); and T. Morgan, Cardigan (24l.).

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

BENTLEY, W. L., and WILLIAMSON, N. R., Rochdale Road and Westview, Oldham Road, both in Royton, near Oldham, surgeons and medical practitioners, under the style of Bentley & Williamson.

HANLEY, T. F., and WALKER, A., carrying on business as general medical practitioners at Gillingham, under the style of Hanley & Walker.

WRIGHT, W. H., and HUGHES, E. P. LL., Derby, physicians, surgeons, and general medical practitioners, under the style of Wright & Hughes.

The Bankruptcy Acts.

ADJUDICATION.

LAWRENCE, F. (described in the receiving order as F. Lawrence), St. Peter's Square, Hammersmith, medical practitioner.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. A. S. SNOWDEN, pharmacist, Anlaby Road, Hull, is to open a shop in the Dairy Coates district.

MESSRS. W. PICKARD & CO., LTD., manufacturing chemists, have removed their Robert Street business to new works at Rutland Road, Sheffield.

MR. CHARLES E. CARTER, chemist and druggist, who for some years has held the licence of the Three Tuns Hotel, Leopold Street, Sheffield, has gone back into pharmacy again at Bradford, having given up the hotel.

MR. J. W. AXFORD, chemist, 60 Smithford Street, Coventry, who is retiring and leaving Coventry, has sold his business to Mr. C. H. Welton, 13 High Street, Coventry. Mr. Axford had conducted the pharmacy for forty years.

THE WIDOW of the late Mr. R. P. Roe, of 3 Packer's Row, Chesterfield, has disposed of the property to the Chesterfield Corporation for street improvements. This brings to a close an old-established pharmacy. The stock and fixtures are being disposed of by private treaty.

DRUGS AND MEDICINES IN POLAND.—There is a very visible increase in the sale of British and American patent medicines, which appear to be ousting German preparations.—*British Consul at Warsaw.*

REMEDIES IN SHAKESPEARE'S WORKS.—Professor H. Schelenz contributes to the "Ber. Deutsch. Pharm. Ges." (1913, XXIII, 411) a study of the medicinal plants and drugs which Shakespeare mentions, and which the author describes minutely.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

WATSON'S PATENTS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.* Objects: To acquire an invention relating to appliances and apparatus for mixing and distributing disinfectant or other fluids with water. R.O., 23 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

CARTWRIGHT & SON, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 200*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, etc. The first directors are A. H. Cartwright and Mrs. B. Cartwright. R.O., 104 Snargate Street, Dover.

STANIFORTH PHARMACY, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 400*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business indicated by the title. The first directors are E. Tibbles and Mrs. E. L. Tibbles. R.O., Staniforth Pharmacy, Staniforth Road, Sheffield.

CLINNING & ORMOND, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of wholesale and retail mineral-water manufacturers and vendors, etc., and to adopt an agreement with W. W. Clinning and Mrs. M. Ormond, who are the first directors. R.O., Banks Street, Blackpool.

RADIUM NATURAL SPRINGS SYNDICATE, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 11,000*l.* Objects: To acquire property in British Columbia known as Lot 149, Group 1, Kootenay District, including mineral rights in respect of certain springs thereon. The first directors are G. R. W. Stuart and G. Beeson. R.O., 11 Old Broad Street, London, E.C.

BLANCHE MERCEDES CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of perfumers, beauty specialists, chemists, druggists, etc. Minimum cash subscription, seven shares. The first directors are Blanche de Hulster, P. Pain, A. de Hulster, and B. A. Reeves. R.O., 5 Salters' Hall Court, London, E.C.

E. WYER & SONS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of mineral-water manufacturers carried on by E. E. F. and H. E. Wyer (who are the first directors) as "Clayton Brothers" at Rutland Street, Pimlico, at Kingston-on-Thames, and elsewhere. R.O., 43 Rutland Street, Pimlico.

FRODSHAM MINERAL WATER CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of Ellison & Corker, Mill Bank, Frodsham, as from July 1, 1913, and to adopt an agreement with W. G. Linaker (vendor). The purchase consideration is 110*l.* in cash. Minimum cash subscription, 24*l.* The first directors are C. E. Linaker, jun., W. G. Linaker, J. G. Brandreth, and W. Ellison. R.O., as above.

Company News.

TANSAN MINERAL WATER CO., LTD..—W. T. Sawyer ceased to act as receiver November 22.

ST. JACOB'S OIL, LTD..—Claims to be sent to T. H. Vernon, 80 Coleman Street, London, E.C., by December 31.

PLOWDFNS DRUG STORES, LTD..—Meeting of creditors at Balfour House, Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C., on December 8, at 3 P.M.

WHITE & CO., CASH CHEMISTS, LTD..—Report of liquidator (Mr. B. C. Offey) at meeting to be held at offices of Mr. R. N. Jones, Temple Chambers, Bull Street, Birmingham, on December 30, at 3 P.M.

ORIENT SHELLAC CO..—In voluntary liquidation. Meeting of creditors at offices of Messrs. G. Henderson & Son, 7 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., on December 3, at noon. Claims to the liquidator (Mr. H. J. Gaspar), to be sent in by January 15, 1914.

BIRTHS.

BOON..—At 88 Trinity Street, Gainsborough, on November 30, the wife of F. W. Boon, chemist and druggist, of a son.

RAE..—At 2 Royal Terrace, Springburn, Glasgow, on November 24, the wife of Walter Thomson Rae, chemist and druggist, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

GREEN—ADLAM..—At St. John the Baptist Church, Frome, on November 27, by the Rev. W. F. H. Randolph, vicar, Herbert John Green, chemist and druggist, of Devonport, to Winifride, eldest daughter of Mr. Wm. Adlam, Locks Hill, Frome.

OAK—HEYWOOD..—At Clarence Road Baptist Church, Southend-on-Sea, on November 27, by the Rev. J. Bryan Marshall, assisted by the Rev. D. Ewart James, Harry A. F. Oak to Agnes Heywood, pharmacist, second daughter of Mr. J. H. Heywood, J.P., Ph.C., all of Southend-on-Sea.

DEATHS.

BOWLER..—On November 28, after a brief illness, Mr. William Samuel Bowler, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-nine. Mr. Bowler, who passed the Modified examination in 1870, was in business for over forty years at Bridge Street, Belper. He was warden at the Parish Church for forty-two years. Other long periods of offices were as trustee of the Savings Bank and Past-Master of the Beaureper Lodge of Freemasons, of which he was Almoner for over thirty years.

FREEMAN..—At Birmingham, on November 29, Mr. John Freeman, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-two. Mr. Freeman had been ailing for some time, but he did not give up work, and as late as the day before his death he was occupying himself with the affairs of his business. A heart seizure on the following morning, however, was followed by unconsciousness, and he slept quietly away shortly before midnight. Mr. Freeman was a native of Benefield, Northamptonshire, but in his early years his parents moved into Lincolnshire, afterwards to Peterborough and Stratford-on-Avon. He served his time with Messrs. Wall & Lucas of the latter town, and from there went to Birmingham, where he was for some years assistant to Mr. W. R. Hedges. In 1865 he started in business on his own account in a small shop in Icknield Street, which has since been enlarged by the absorption of premises on both sides. There his son, Mr. W. Marshall Freeman, was for a time associated with him until he became a barrister. Mr. Freeman was an earnest Churchman. Almost from the commencement of his career in Birmingham he was a manager of St. Paul's National Schools, and remained so to the end. He was also the oldest sub-postmaster in Birmingham, having been appointed soon after he commenced business, and during his tenure of that office he had seen some half-dozen different postmasters of Birmingham. He was a man of fine presence, and always spoke with pride of the fact that when he was an assistant at Stratford-on-Avon he was one of the first to join the old Warwickshire Volunteers when that corps was established, and that he was one of the tallest members. He worked very hard at business all his life and was a typical chemist of the old school, with a great natural talent for successful prescribing. He was known and respected by a very wide circle, especially among the poor of West Birmingham.

HALL..—At 22 Plymouth Road, Penarth, on November 29, Mr. Thos. Wright Hall, representative in South Wales of Messrs. Ferris & Co., wholesale druggists, Bristol, for over thirty years. At the funeral at Brislington on December 4, the firm were represented by Messrs. H. H. Townsend (managing director), C. E. Boucher (chairman of directors), J. M. Boucher (director), and the several heads of departments. A handsome wreath was sent by the employés.

MARLOW..—On November 29, Bevan Leopold, son of Mr. A. E. Marlow, chemist and druggist, Wolverhampton, aged eight months.

A High Honour..—The Grand Duke of Hesse has appointed Medical Councillor Dr. E. A. Merck, of the firm of E. Merck, Darmstadt, a member for life of the Upper Chamber of the Hessian Parliament.

TRADE NOTES.

MESSRS. ARTHUR H. COX & Co., LTD., Brighton, have placed plans before the local Council for the further extension of their present premises.

A SHOWCASE of good design, well made in mahogany, and with plate-glass shelves, is offered by Price's, Battersea, London, S.W., for counter-display of their perfumes. It is figured in their advertisement, and is given with 3*l.* worth of the Price products.

CHRISTMAS PERFUMES.—Messrs. Shirley Bros., Ltd., Whitecross Works, London, S.E., are offering bargains in Christmas perfumery, in the shape of 25s. parcels which show 80 per cent. profit when retailed. Particulars of the varied parcels are given in their advertisement.

OMAR KHAYYAM PERFUME is being extensively advertised to the public at present by Messrs. H. Brounley & Co., Ltd., Acton Vale, London, W., and there are excellent shows of it at several large London stores, including Harrod's, Whiteley's, Barker's, and Barnes'.

IDRIS CHAMPAGNES are much appreciated by old and young who assemble together at this season of the year. Chemists should now be getting orders for them from their customers, and Messrs. Idris & Co., Ltd., will do what they can to help them if chemists write to the company for particulars.

Congratulations to Sangars on their centenary. They intimate the circumstance in a modest yet most effective way by depicting in their advertisement this week the premises at 150 Oxford Street where they were in 1813, and the series of buildings which they now occupy at 258 Euston Road, London, N.W.

MESSRS. AYRTON, SAUNDERS & Co., LTD., 34 Hanover Street, Liverpool, have arranged with Messrs. J. C. Gambles & Co., 20 Little Britain, London, E.C., to hold a stock of their leading specialities, so that chemists in London and the South of England may obtain supplies from Messrs. Gambles.

MESSRS. SCHACHT, WARNER & Co., 55 Fore Street, London, E.C., inform us that they have been appointed sole agents in the United Kingdom for Gustav Lohse's perfumery, Barella's Magenpulver, and for the firm of Dr. R. O. Weil, whose Veronacetin and Droserin are now being advertised to medical men.

EXPURGO ANTI-DIABETES is the new name for Sanol Anti-Diabetes made by the Expurgo Manufacturing Co., Chicago, for whom the London agents are Rocke, Tompsett & Co., 4 Redcross Street, London, E.C. The change in name has been rendered necessary by trademark registration difficulties. The preparation known as Sanol is to be called Expurgo Lapis.

MESSRS. HOWARDS & SONS, LTD., Stratford, London, E., intimate that they are removing their office and warehouse to their new premises at Ilford, and on and after January 1, 1914, their address will be Uphall Works, Ilford, London, while their telegraphic address will be "Quinology Ilford" (instead of "Quinology Stratford"), and their telephone numbers 162, 163, and 164 Ilford.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—The "Sanitas" Co., Ltd., announce that their works and offices will be closed from the evening of Wednesday, December 24, until December 29.—Messrs. Stafford Allen & Sons, Ltd., 7 Cowper Street, London, E.C., will close their works from Wednesday evening, December 24, to December 29. Further, on account of stocktaking, urgent orders only can be filled between December 29 and 31.

COD-LIVER OIL EMULSION.—Referring to the article in the *C. & D.* last week on window-dressing with cod-liver oil emulsion, Messrs. Baiss Bros. & Stevenson, Ltd., Grange Works, 174, 175, 176 Grange Road, Bermondsey, London, S.E., inform us that they will be glad to supply a showcard of a gold cod-fish to those who apply at once. The showcard is a handsome one, and is used to advertise their "Gold Fish" brand cod-liver oil emulsion.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. SMITH WARD, chemist and druggist, has been nominated to fill a casual vacancy on the Batley Town Council.

PROFESSOR OESTERLE, son-in-law of Flückiger, has been asked to accept the Chair of Pharmaceutical Chemistry held by the late Professor Schaefer at Berne University.

MR. FRANK SHAW has been appointed by Messrs. Blackwell, Hayes & Co., Moor Street, Birmingham, as their representative for Birmingham and the Midland Counties.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN MORGAN RICHARDS will celebrate their golden wedding on December 31, 1913, and it is proposed to entertain them to a public dinner on the occasion.

MR. A. PEAKE, chemist and druggist, who has been in business at Earlestown for more than forty years, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the county of Lancaster.

MR. W. PHILIP WANT, F.C.S., editor of the "British and Colonial Druggist," is making satisfactory progress from the rather severe surgical operation which he underwent last week.

MR. A. H. HALE, chemist and druggist, 3 York Street, Broadstairs, has been appointed Almoner and Charity representative of the Bradstow Lodge of Freemasons, of which he is a Past-Master.

MR. W. H. HEWETT, pharmacist, Brighton, succeeded in capturing a seat on the Town Council at the bye-election on November 28, his majority being 159. His opponent was an old member of the Council.

MR. HUBERT HUMPHRY, L.D.S.Eng., F.S.M.C., pharmacist, younger son of Mr. H. Humphry, J.P., of Fairfax Place, Dartmouth, has been appointed by the Southampton Education Committee as school dental surgeon.

MR. E. A. ATKINS, Ph.C., 30 Highbury Park, Islington, London, N., was on November 19 initiated in Freemasonry at the meeting of the Lodge of Good Fellowship. On November 22 Mr. Atkins won the Royal Wimbledon Golf Challenge Cup in match competition.

MR. JOHN McLENNAN SCOTT, head of the ledger department at the head office of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, London, E.C., completed twenty-one years' service with the firm on November 28. To mark the occasion he was presented with a mahogany clock bearing a suitable inscription.

MR. GEORGE DUNCAN BOWIE writes to say that his patent for "a phosphated preparation of common salt" was dated July 18, 1890—several years prior to the formation of Cerebos, Ltd. The Cerebos Syndicate acquired his patent, and now use, he adds, the exact proportion of mixed phosphates set forth in his specification.

MR. W. S. ADAMSON, who has for some years represented Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. in the Nottingham district, has removed nearer London, taking up a journey in the South Midlands and Home Counties. Mr. Adamson is to be followed on the Nottingham journey by Mr. Hinckley, who has been travelling for the firm in India.

MR. A. HAIGH, chemist and druggist, has been appointed pharmacist to the Halifax Infirmary. Mr. Haigh, who has been engaged at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Dispensary for some years past, is well known to London assistants in connection with the Chemists' Assistants' Association, of which he has been Vice-President and Secretary.

PERSIAN TRAGACANTH.—The exports from Baghdad in 1912 were 5,772 packages (75,099*l.*), against 5,584 packages (69,240*l.*) in 1911 and 4,384 packages (54,726*l.*) in 1910. The 1912 crop was average in quantity and quality, but prices were good, though variable, ranging from 6*l.* to 10*l.* per cwt.; the average was about 6*l.* 5*s.* The United Kingdom took 71 per cent. of the exports, the rest being shipped to Egypt, Austria-Hungary, France, Germany, and the United States.

FESTIVITIES.

Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland.

The annual dinner of the Governors of the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland took place on November 29 at the Métropole Hotel, Dublin, Alderman J. C. McWalter, M.D., B.L., Ph.C., etc. (the Governor), presiding. Sir Charles Caueron proposed the toast of "The Universities," to which Dr. Coffey (President of the National University) replied.

He recalled that the Apothecaries' Hall was established 140 years ago under an Act of the Irish Parliament, and no Society is more distinguished in respect of its old associations with Dublin. Professor Thompson replied for the University of Dublin. Replying to the toast of "The Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Surgeons," Dr. Purefoy (President of the Royal College of Physicians) said that the writing of prescriptions has not the recognition it used to receive in days gone by. Dr. Conway Dwyer replied for the Royal College of Surgeons. Dr. Rowlette also responded, and paid a tribute to the service of the Governor both in his professional and public capacities. Sir Lambert Ormsby proposed "The City of Dublin," to which the Recorder and Alderman Maguire replied. Other toasts were "The Dublin Medical Committee," "The Visitors," and "The Governor." Dr. J. C. McWalter replied to the last toast.

Merry Middlesex.

MR. JOHN HUMPHREY presided at the first annual dinner of the Middlesex County Pharmaceutical Association, which was held in the Venetian Chamber of the Holborn Restaurant on Wednesday evening, December 3. The County Association comprises the Ealing, Harrow, North London, and Thames Valley Associations, of whose members a goodly number were present, the company of about 120 including many ladies. Two innovations in pharmaceutical gatherings in the Venetian Chamber were introduced—first, the company were seated at round or oblong tables placed throughout the Chamber, this arrangement giving a family-gathering air to the company which proved to be delightful; second, after the toast of "The King," the gentlemen who smoked had cigars offered to them, while the ladies received dainty baskets of chocolates. Among those at the top table supporting the Chairman were Mrs. Edmund White and the President of the Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. Cuff, Mr. A. E. Bailey, Mr. H. Skinner, and Mr. Hugo Wolff on the right; while on his left were Mrs. Humphrey, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., Dr. Brackenbury, Mr. E. R. Abbott (Secretary of the Middlesex Insurance Committee), Mr. Neathercoat, Mr. Alfred Higgs, and Mr. F. W. Ashton. In the company we noticed Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Presant, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Aukland, Mr. Williams (Wright, Layman & Umney), Mr. Procter Atkinson, Mr. Bowie, and Mr. Tocher (Duncan, Flockhart & Co.), and Mr. Hickey (Parke, Davis & Co.). A short interval followed the dinner and the loyal toast; then Mr. Skinner submitted the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society," remarking that no man had raised the status of pharmacists in public institutions more than the President and he paid tribute to Mr. White's excellent work on the London Insurance Committee. Mr. White, in the course of a witty reply, stated that the Society is fully alive to the difficulties of the Insurance situation. He claimed that the Society had earned credit for the manner in which it had worked with the Government, adding that the appreciation of chemists' abilities for pharmaceutical service is the result of the education and examination policy of the Society, which is now approaching the new problems in the same spirit and without ignoring anything that has been achieved in the past. The toast of "The Visitors" was given from the chair, Mr. Humphrey coupling with it the names of Mr. Glyn-Jones, as Chairman of the Middlesex Insurance Committee, and Dr. Brackenbury. Mr. Glyn-Jones, in his reply, said that one of the many results of

THE INSURANCE ACT

has been the bringing into being of county organisations. In that the Act has certainly served a useful purpose. As Chairman of the Middlesex Insurance Committee, he has

to forget that he is a pharmacist, for the Insurance Committee represents various interests, and it is his duty as Chairman to see that all these interests are directed to provide as perfect a service for insured persons as can be provided. The pharmacists of the county, he continued, had not put forward any proposals which are not for the best of the insured persons. Touching upon the legal aspects of the contracts between the Committee and chemists, he said that the pharmacists of the county are to be congratulated upon not having attempted to prey upon the ignorance of those with whom they have had to deal; indeed, they have been exceedingly fair. As regards the effects of the Insurance Act, "I am satisfied," Mr. Glyn-Jones continued, "that pharmacy as such has come into its own, for I am confident that the members of Insurance Committees have had brought to their notice the fact that prescribing is the function of the medical man, and dispensing that of the chemist. Surely that is of the greatest service to pharmacy. When any sudden change comes over a calling it is good to be ready, and I am sure that all authorities and men in position have recognised that in regard to dispensing pharmacists were ready when the work was handed to them by Parliament." Mr. Glyn-Jones also referred to the fresh considerations as to organisation which have arisen, saying that what he had done himself had been largely due to the fact that he represented an undivided profession. He implored for the future that chemists see to it that this continues, and declared that the organisation should be in the hands of one body. Whatever happens, it is, he said, the duty of the Pharmaceutical Society not to delegate any of its functions to any outside body. If the existing organisation is found to be in some respects unsuitable for the new situation, the sooner it is adapted to that situation the better it will be. In conclusion, he claimed that the Middlesex Insurance Committee is the premier county organisation in England, and he hoped that the Middlesex Pharmaceutical Association would also become the premier body of the kind in England. Dr. Brackenbury, in his reply, congratulated the meeting on the fact that medical benefit administration had brought the position of doctors and pharmacists clearly to the public and to each other. The public now realise that doctors make their living and provide for their old age by their work: in other words, that doctors, like other people, must be paid for their services. He was glad to think that doctors and chemists perform their own functions better under Insurance Act conditions, and there are indications of better means of co-operation between them in future. The next toast of "The Middlesex Association," was given by Mr. E. T. Neathercoat, who, in the course of his remarks, paid a high compliment to Mr. Arthur E. Bailey (Secretary of the Association), whose powers of organisation and originality he commented upon, saying that his work in that respect is not yet done, and indicating that greater calls will be made upon him and his colleagues. After the toast was honoured, the Chairman, on behalf of the pharmacists of Middlesex, presented Mr. Bailey with a secretary's despatch-case and cheque as a token of their appreciation and regard. Mr. Humphrey stated that this gift was subscribed for by every pharmacist in Middlesex; that Mr. Bailey knows every man in the county, and his shop as well. Mr. Bailey was most heartily received when he rose to reply, and, speaking under the stress of emotion, he said: "Such appreciation makes all the work that I have done worth while, and makes me desirous of doing more. If I am called upon to do more for the protection and furtherance of the interests of Middlesex pharmacists, I shall be most pleased to do it." Then, speaking on behalf of the Association, Mr. Bailey said it is its aim to make it the best in the country, and, referring to the work done since it was called into being, he mentioned the assistance that he had received from the other Secretaries and from Mr. Abbott, the Secretary of the Insurance Committee. Mr. Wolff proposed the toast of "The Ladies" in a witty speech, and Mr. Abbott replied. In the course of the evening Miss F. Carto sang several songs delightfully. Mr. F. Merry also sang and Mr. W. Alderton played expertly on the handbell. Altogether a good beginning, for it is not every Chemists' Association in the Metropolis which starts on sociality with a note of distinction.



DR. MCWALTER.



MR. A. E. BAILEY.

Smoking-concert.

THE South-East London Pharmacists' Association held a Bohemian concert at the Portland Hotel, Greenwich, on November 27, which about one hundred pharmacists and their friends attended. Mr. W. Chas. Sayers, F.C.S., occupied the chair, supported by Messrs. W. Ralph, W. T. Tucker, W. A. Curnow, J. Milner, A. Goldthorpe, G. A. Pooher, Chas. Martin, and E. G. Price (Hon. Secretary). The programme was much enjoyed. Mr. Montague Smith, F.C.S. (Lewisham Infirmary), gave an exhibition of sleight of hand. Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. E. G. Price (Hon. Secretary), who organised the concert, and to the Chairman.

Bath College of Pharmacy.

THE annual supper and smoking-concert of the Bath and West of England College of Pharmacy took place at Fisher's Restaurant, Bath, on November 27. The Principal (Mr. D. J. Williams, F.C.S., Ph.C.) presided over a company of sixty. After supper, Mr. C. B. Evelich proposed "The College and Principal," mentioning that "old boys" had come from Liverpool and Shrewsbury. Mr. W. Cooper supported, and Mr. A. V. Norris, on behalf of the present students, presented Mr. Williams with a silver cigarette-case. Mr. Williams thanked the speakers for their compliments, and also the students for the gift they had made to him. He spoke of the value of sport in teaching young men to "play the game." Medals were then presented to the successful students—silver medals to Messrs. V. Hales, T. Reece, and A. V. Norris, and bronze to Mr. W. A. Poucher. "The Visitors and Old Boys" was the final toast. A musical programme was gone through during the evening.

Whist-drives.

THE social events arranged by the Portsmouth Pharmacists' Association for the coming winter include a couple of whist-drives, the first of which took place on November 26 at the Mikado Restaurant. At the commencement of the proceedings the President (Mr. W. A. Bell) welcomed the company, and at the close of play the prizes were presented by Mrs. W. A. Atterbury, wife of the Treasurer, who was thanked for her kindness and also for the assistance she had rendered the Entertainment Committee.

THE annual whist-drive of the Wolverhampton Chemists' Association was held at the Star and Garter Hotel on November 27, when forty-eight members and friends were present. During the interval, with the President (Mr. H. Fellows) in the chair, a short meeting was held, when the Secretary presented the revised Tariff, with the additions caused by the new Regulations and a reduction in the price of the decoctions. The Tariff was unanimously adopted; the new agreement was also adopted. The ladies' prizes were won by Miss M. Phillips, Miss Watkins, Miss H. Robinson, and Mrs. Phillips; the gentlemen's prizes by Mr. Stanway, Mr. C. Warner, Mr. Cullwick, and Mr. Haggard. The President and Secretary of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association were present, and were formally welcomed. Both Mr. Radford and Mr. Smith briefly replied.

POISONING FATALITIES.

FIVE inquests relating to poisoning cases have been concluded this week.

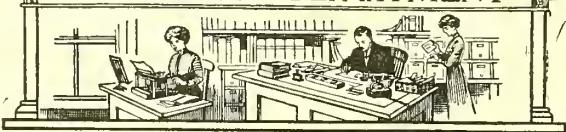
Carbolic Acid was the suicidal agent used by Thomas Marsh, labourer, Liverpool.

Morphine.—Arthur Haywood, photographer, Battersea, died from an accidental overdose of morphine taken to relieve rheumatism.

Morphine and Veronal.—The inquiry into the death of Dr. Horace Dimock, of Wisbech, the whole-time panel doctor, who was found dead in bed while under remand on a charge of criminal libel by his fellow-practitioners, was concluded on December 3. Dr. W. H. Wilcox, Home Office analyst, who stated that 2.67 grains of morphine and 6.7 grains of veronal were found in the organs of the deceased, said that the dose of morphine taken would probably have proved fatal to a person not habitually accustomed to taking the drug.

Prussic Acid.—John Kirk (20), assistant to Mr. W. Taylor, chemist and druggist, Derby Road, Heanor, poisoned himself with this lethal agent. At the inquest, deceased's brother said Kirk had been over-anxious as to the result of his study for an examination on December 9. Dr. Eames said deceased was a neurotic young man who took a serious view of things.

Veronal.—Martha Beauchamp, widow, Richmond, Surrey, committed suicide by taking veronal.

INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

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Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS CANNON LONDON" (two words).

Telephone Number: BANK 852 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

Would any reader who knows please inform us by postcard or telephone of the names and addresses of the agents or makers of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 39/39. "Aladel": suppliers.
- 19/63. "Kino fils" brilliantines.
- 41/420. "Polomentine": makers.
- 35/56. "Bromo Styrol": makers.
- 36/68. Lewis's iodide soap: maker.
- 41/42. "Komfy" powder: supply.
- 36/67. Radium-water filter: supply.
- 34/3. "Vibro" (for dogs): makers.
- 23/25. Goat-lymph tablets: makers.
- 36/17. "Jenner's Food": suppliers.
- 41/422. "Javo" cloth balls: makers.
- 40/11. "Piggles Pills Co.": address.
- 36/66. Cook's skin-healer: proprietors.
- 31/9. Powell's magic pills: proprietors.
- 24/15. "Pymadine" (for paint): makers.
- 41/421. "Moseley's Balm": proprietors.
- 38/14. Dr. Weiss's oxygen baths: supply.
- 21/72. "Confectogen": maker or supplier.
- 36/56. "Trixidene": makers or suppliers.
- 43/57. "Syona" veterinary oil: suppliers.
- 21/72. Emil Lubiner's brilliantines: supply.
- 40/670. "Zup" triple catarrh-cure: supply.
- 36/69. Mortimer's "Red Seal" toilet paper.
- 15/16. Proprietors of "Cole's Indian Balm."
- 36/662. Hutchinson's occult lozenges: makers.
- 42/16. Papier Velours (Henri frères): makers.
- 36/660. Read's "Essence of Sulphur": makers.
- 36/661. Hitchmon's "Cure for Aches and Pains."
- 19/63. "Luseol" (a paraffin preparation): makers.
- 40/67. Vaccine for gonorrhoea (Dr. Nicolle, of Tunis).
- 30/22. "Dodworth Co." (formerly of Leeds): address?
- 43/56. "Hygienic Keep Clean" steriliser bottle: supply.
- 28/26. Prepared poultices ("Liliebe, Hamilton & Co.").
Berner Chemische Fabrik's "Anti-Obesity Tablets": supply.
- 41/32. Makers of machinery for freezing and filtering 100 gals. of perfume an hour.
- 39/11. "Cordial Balm of Syriaeum" and "Specific Purifying Pills": address of suppliers.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to where the following articles are obtainable wholesale. We shall be glad to repeat the information to others who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Aluminium boxes, 30/43
- Bakelite, 27/1
- Beauty massage cups, 29/100
- Charles Gordon's preparations, 30/53
- Cockle's pills, 28/21
- Coniferol (Langbein), 20/3
- Dutch drops, 29/11 and 31/61
- Electro-colloidal metals, 24/42
- Emulsifiers (1 to 2 gals.), 26/58
- Emulsiol Pilm. 32/40
- Ergotole, 31/10
- Iodogen, 28/612
- Japanned label racks, 29/35
- Javol, 32/420
- Kephadol tablets, 25/22
- Kokrettle, 28/61
- Lantern-slides (on hire), 32/2
- Larbaletier's Cologne tooth-powder, 28/613
- Metallic capsules (for India), 30/4
- Neave's Food, 13/390
- Nervoids, 19/45
- Prolactum, 22/51
- Pynalant, 17/5
- "Reducine," 26/55
- Rejuvenoids, 7/8
- Rubber muff-warmers, 27/100
- St. Vincent arrowroot, 32/65
- "Sapon" toilet soap, 15/160
- Trade booklets (stock), supply, 8/20
- "Twenty - mule Team" brand borax, 245/12
- "Tyros" sphygmometer, 247/52
- Urol tablets, 26/59
- Vestosol, 7/57
- Zymate tooth-paste, 7/590

OBSERVATIONS AND REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

The Question,

Has a pharmacist any right to dispense a prescription for anybody but the original patient? (which arises out of the *smurf case* reported last week) has been asked before, but never finally answered. Is a final answer possible? Into the merits of the case referred to it is not necessary to enter. Most pharmacists will, I think, agree with the magistrate's decision, but the clerk's opinion, if it was meant to apply to all prescriptions, does not settle the previous question. All rights in the prescription, said this official, belong to the doctor and the patient. But where do the patient's rights cease? May he use the prescription as often as he pleases? May he lend it to a friend? May he empower the chemist to use it whenever he thinks fit? If so, has the chemist any right to avail himself of this permission? And if not, why not? It can scarcely be for any legal reason, if the patient has a legal right to give the permission, which there is no obvious reason to deny. Nor is the moral question, in itself, much simpler, though it is complicated by the fact that a prescription suitable to the original case may be unsuitable in another. That, however, is a circumstantial, not an essential, point. I am inclined to think that no certain, unconditional answer to our question is possible; that although a chemist ought to respect the rights of those whom he serves, he is at liberty to use his own judgment in cases where these rights are voluntarily surrendered. And I may add that the patient seems to me to have a better right to the prescription he has paid for than the doctor who was paid for it. The wisdom of dispensing it broadcast is an entirely different matter.

The Sale of Cocaine

as such, and our duty with respect to it, is another question which is not without difficulty. Your correspondent puts the matter fairly from the mere tradesman's point of view, but he is not very logical. The analogy between sale by a chemist and prescription by a doctor is not a sound one, and even less so is that between the sale of cocaine and the sale of flannelette. We have neither the doctor's direct responsibility nor his particular knowledge; nor, on the other hand, is cocaine only indirectly dangerous, like flannelette. Even the case of the publican, though more nearly like our own, is not altogether on all-fours with it. In the first place, we are not publicans; and in the second, cocaine is a much more insidious and deadly thing than whisky. The former consideration is enough, without the other. We are neither mere tradesmen nor medical men, but occupy in some respects a position midway between them. Without "preaching," one may say that we have to decide between our lower and our higher selves: whether we shall have an eye to the till only, or emulate the man who is supposed to think first of his patient's good. Professions, said Sir A. Pearce Gould the other day at the Western dinner, are so called because in them very great importance is attached to personal honour, and he was good enough to add that we chemists can claim the title as much as the doctors. It is not honourable to live upon the degradation of our fellows, if we can avoid it; and every pharmacist who has any regard for such considerations will warn his customers against the misuse of baneful drugs when occasion demands it. Sometimes he will be forced to refuse their custom.

Our American Cousin

whose opinion of London pharmacists you quoted last week is probably either one of those amiable gentlemen of an antiquarian turn of mind who come over to see their "Old Home" with a preconceived notion that everything here is pretty much as their ancestors left it when the *Mayflower* sailed for Cape Cod Bay, or one who "does Yurrup" in a week-end holiday and records his impressions on his shirt-cuffs as he goes along. His use of the term "dispensation" in a sense

as old as Queen Anne, and his purblindness to all but a few survivals of the old order of things, suggest the former; the fact that a walk from Ludgate Circus to the Bank suffices him for such a sweeping generalisation gives colour to the latter suspicion. At all events he is clearly negligible as a critic; English pharmacists may not be quite up to the American standard as hustlers, but to say that they make no effort to solicit business, or that they "confine themselves to the dispensation of drugs," is absurd. One wonders whether the descriptions we sometimes get from travelled English chemists of the American drug-store as a variety of drinking-saloon are equally wide of the mark? Be that as it may, the interest attaching to this particular traveller's account of our own methods is mainly psychological; it suggests an inquiry into the condition of his mind.

The One Tariff

idea is so reasonable that one can hardly conceive any objection being offered to it, and, indeed, it seems to me that with a little longer experience of the disadvantage of the present system the chemists of England will be glad to get back to something like uniformity. I understand that Scotland must now be regarded as being in an exceptional position, and possibly Wales ought also to preserve her nationality by insisting on a tariff of her own, but there is surely no reason why an identical tariff should not obtain all over England. The question of one Pharmacopeia is more complicated, but I am quite sure that this also could be attainable. "An Official Checker" wants County Formularies, but though this might reduce the inconvenience now felt to some extent, it is by no means an ideal scheme; for example, it would perpetuate and tend to stereotype the very grievance it is intended to remedy. I have long thought that a selected list of formulas might be based on those contained in the Pharmacopeias the contents of which were issued in the *C. & D. Diary* last year and the year before. Surely the task of codifying these formulae and adapting them, if necessary, to local requirements, by including two or more variations under the same name but with a distinguishing mark, ought not to be insuperable. This would no doubt encourage the stock-mixture idea; but why not? None of us raises any objection when the stock mixture carries after it the mystic symbol B.P.C.

For Smoothing the Path

of the adulterator there is nothing to equal a good-going test case and a few appeals in the law courts. Now that we know that malt vinegar, even if it be made from genuine malt and be absolutely free from added acid of any description, will not pass the public analyst unless it contains a certain percentage of phosphoric acid, what will be easier than to add to the vinegar the required amount of acid to bring it within the charmed circle of official recognition? Unfortunately, I have not at hand the report of the case when it was tried in the lower court, and it is possible that some other reason than the absence of a certain amount of phosphoric acid was given for considering the vinegar as adulterated; but since this reason is specifically stated in the pleadings and apparently accepted by both sides, I take it to be the principal objection urged against the vinegar. With all respect to the learned Judges, I would like to point out that when they were saying that "vinegar ought to be sour wine" they were thinking of what we call "wine vinegar," "white wine vinegar," etc., and not of "malt" vinegar at all. It is well known in the trade that white wine vinegar and malt vinegar are not necessarily identical. It seems a pity that this was not made perfectly clear in the evidence, for if it is going to be settled law that malt vinegar "ought to be sour wine," vinegar-makers are in for a hot time, and they had better see to it that their malt vinegar contains a definite percentage of phosphoric acid.



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Editorial Articles.

German Spirit.

At a meeting of the British distillers who control the output of rectified spirit, it was decided to leave the prices unaltered for next year's contracts, as notified in last week's *C. & D.* This fact is of interest as showing that the combination continue to have a thorough grip on the market, and that they do not look for any active outside competition, especially from foreign sources. German potato spirit is again likely to remain above the price of British for next year, but it is of interest to note one or two outstanding facts in connection with the situation in Germany to-day. It had been anticipated by the large consumers that a reduction in the "Centrale's" selling-price was inevitable, as the potato crops had proved excellent in quality and quantity. But for some inscrutable reason the Centrale decided not to reduce the selling-price to consumers, although such a reduction was strongly advocated by leading interests among manufacturers. On the contrary, the Centrale have reduced the "Abschlagspreise" (which is the rate paid to the farmer-distillers on account and subsequently adjusted) from 53m. to 50m. per hectolitre, and this became operative on November 24. The official report of the "ring" simply states that, having regard to the wishes repeatedly expressed in consuming centres as to the means of affording relief to the situation, negotiations have been conducted with a view of eventually reintroducing an effectual "rebate." A further request of consumers is also to be granted during the current year, that the monthly additions [Reportzuschlägen] to the selling-price will be abolished, although the ring point out that the cost of moving and storing the large stocks of spirit, which are still increasing, is very heavy. The accumulation of such large stocks, say the Centrale, appears necessary if unduly sharp fluctuations in the selling-price are to be avoided. Provision has also to be made to counteract the effect of unforeseen events, especially possible crop failures. It is of interest to note the changes in German spirit during the past four years. On September 29, 1909, the selling-price was fixed at 46m., and the following table shows the changes which have since taken place:

	1910	1911	1912
	M. pfg.	M. pfg.	M. pfg.
Feb. 18 ...	46 30	Jan. 1 ... 50 10	Jan. 18 ... 61 50
Mar. 18 ...	46 60	Jan. 27 ... 50 50	Mar. 29 ... 69 50
April 1 ...	46 90	Feb. 2 ... 50 90	April 20 ... 75 50
April 29 ...	47 20	Mar. 31 ... 51 30	Oct. 25 ... 69 50
May 27 ...	47 60	May 26 ... 52 10	Nov. 15 ... 65 50
June 24 ...	48 00	June 30 ... 52 50	
July 27 ...	48 40	July 28 ... 52 90	1913
Oct. 14 ...	48 80	Aug. 15 ... 58 50	Feb. 20 ... 62 50
Nov. 18 ...	49 80		
Dec. 2 ...	49 70		

The figures well illustrate the persistent policy in maintaining the selling-prices. The excuse of the Centrale against a reduction is thus apparently based on the swelling of the stocks, which on October 31 reached the high total of 434,670 hectolitres undenatured spirit, and on

the costs involved by warehousing this accumulation, in spite of the brilliant potato crops. The Centrale, it is said, have done nothing whatever to stimulate consumption. Since February this year no reduction has been made in the high price, as the Centrale merely "reckoned with supplies proving adequate to meet requirements." The price of spirit used for burning or lighting purposes, which was advanced by 3 pfg. per litre on April 20, 1912, has been left undisturbed. It is, of course, understood that the above prices apply to home consumption only, export prices being on an entirely different basis, the latter at the present time being about 5d. per proof gallon above the parity of British pure spirit.

Institute of Chemistry.

THE "Proceedings" of the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland for November is of considerably more interest than usual. It contains a statement on the conditions of appointments of public analysts which it is intended to issue to local authorities concerned with the administration of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, dealing with their increasing work and responsibility, qualifications, inadequate remuneration, and fixity of tenure. In regard to the relative official positions of public analysts and medical officers of health, it is stated that analysts should have direct access to, and be directly responsible to, committees dealing with their work. In the Summary the scale of remuneration recommended is that given in the last "Proceedings" (*C. & D.*, August 2, index folio 221). There is a useful Appendix of the legislative measures and Government Departmental regulations and recommendations as regards foodstuffs, drugs, etc., during the last twenty years. The Institute's regulations have been revised as regards the Final examination in Branch E, these having been approved by the Local Government Board as follows :

(e) The Chemistry (including Microscopy) of Food and Drugs, Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs, Soils and Water; including the examination and analysis of any article within the scope of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts; Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs, Soils and Water; the detection and determination of the active ingredients in crude drugs, pharmacopoeial and antiseptic preparations and prescriptions; the application of the principles of toxicological analysis; detection of blood stains; the examination of urine. Candidates are expected to produce duly authenticated note-books containing evidence of systematic instruction and practice in Microscopy. They must be familiar with the microscope and its accessories and other physical apparatus employed. They are given practical work and a written paper in microscopy. There is also an oral examination in the recognition of chemicals and drugs ordinarily found in commerce. They are required to show a general knowledge of the commoner impurities and falsifications in drugs, their recognition and importance with respect to the pharmaceutical action and therapeutical value of the drugs, the toxicological effects of chemicals and drugs, and a knowledge of the dangers from poisoning by chemicals used in trade processes. They are also expected to possess a general knowledge of the Acts relating to adulteration, the sale of poisons, and fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

The object is to emphasise the necessity for systematic training in microscopy and modify the medical knowledge essential to a public analyst. The following is the Institute's recommendation as regards the course in microscopy which should be taken in conjunction with the compulsory course in botany :

The Student should attain a general elementary knowledge of the optics of the microscope. The Microscope Stand. The use, construction and adjustment of its various parts. The objective, Explanation of the terms *Dry* and *Immersion*; *Achromatic* and *Apochromatic*; *Angular* and *Numerical* aperture. Ap'anic aperture. Critical illumination. The testing of objectives, including the measurement of numerical aperture. The substage condenser, its adjustment and use. The various methods of illuminating the object. The measurement of microscopic objects. The Camera Lucida. The Polariscopic and the Microspectroscopic Examination of cell contents. Detection of Starch, Mucilage, Inulin, Calcium oxalate. Oil, Aleurone grains. Recognition of various cell forms; Cellulose, lignified and suberised cell walls. Separation of the tissues and elements. Preparation, staining, mounting, describing and sketching (with or without the aid of

the Camera Lucida) of sections, tissues and elements characteristic of woods, stems, leaves, barks, seeds, fruits, rhizomes, and roots. Examination of those foods and drugs having an organised structure which are commonly sold in powdered form and the detection of commonly occurring adulterants by comparison with authentic specimens. Examination of the sediments from water and from urine. Identification of the commoner commercial fibres.

The revised scheme is also given of the Institute's new building, with plans. The Institute has published a report of the Conference of Professors of Chemistry, which was held on October 17. At the outset the President (Professor Meldola) refuted the idea that the Institute's object is to provide analysts and consultants, all branches of the profession being wanted. Most of the speakers appealed for broader paths to the Institute's examinations. It was suggested that University Honours degrees or research should qualify the holder as an Associate, and some speakers advocated research as a condition for the Fellowship. A plea was also made for recognition of more technical institutions. Some of the remarks of Professor A. W. Crossley, of the Pharmaceutical Society's School, are of special interest to pharmacists. Taking the subjects for which the Associateship of the Institute is granted, he said it would be admitted that in physical chemistry and organic chemistry the Institute is duplicating University examinations. Proceeding, he said :

Let me now take the subject in which I am sure we all agree that the Institute is the one institution in this country for granting a qualification, and that is in the Chemistry of Food and Drugs. Are we giving the A.I.C. or the F.I.C. to the sort of men to whom you wish to give this hall-mark of efficiency? I would instance my own students from the institution across the way. There are many of them who go through the Minor and Major examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society, at the end of which time they are competent general chemists, and they have a very special knowledge of drugs. A good man who has been through those courses can in a few months get up a sufficient amount of food analysis to pass your examination. This has not been done once; it has been done many times. I have nothing to say against these men. They are perfectly competent to comply with the tests which are set them, and I have nothing to say against the examinations or the examiners; but these men in three years' time become Fellows of the Institute of Chemistry. In these three intervening years they need not have done one single analysis in either food or drugs. I maintain that to send such men into the world as F.I.C. and as competent analysts of food and drugs is at all events misleading. An analyst must have experience, which is exactly what these men have not. My belief is that we are giving our qualifications to men inexperienced, and too young to have the necessary experience. I maintain that some very radical alterations must be made in the conduct of the Institute's examinations.

Professor Crossley said the Institute can commence where the University leaves off, and can demand experience for its qualification. Later he remarked, "We know perfectly well that at the end of a degree course a man is not worth much as a chemist," but he had previously proposed that the holder of any first- or second-class University degree in chemistry should be exempt from any other examination previous to the Associateship, and said he would make independent work—"research, if you like to call it so"—an absolute necessity for the Fellowship. The opinions thus expressed by Professor Crossley, and so far as they relate to chemists who have been trained in pharmacy, cause one to think. It is significant that five out of the last seven Associates who qualified in Branch E were pharmacists, four of them trained in the School of Pharmacy. Indeed, it is the weakness of the University candidate for microscopy and therapeutics which has led to the strengthening of the regulations in regard to these and botany during the last few years, culminating in the detailed syllabus given above. These are the subjects in which the pharmacist naturally excels. It is the lack of specialised training

in drugs which leads to the injudicious prosecutions based on ridiculous tests or standards which have caused unnecessary trouble during the past few years to retailers and wholesalers in the drug-trade. Mr. David Howard, a manufacturer, not a professor, was almost the last speaker. He administered a cold douche of common sense, saying, "What you want in the average chemical works is a man who can think for himself." As regards research, if it were only a question of working out ideas, "we have bottle-washers who have been trained to do the work for us; it is the man who can do the preliminary thinking that we want. It must not be imagined that a finished chemist can be turned out by any means of education except the test of experience."

The speakers in the main upheld their variation of the bootmaker's adage, "There's nothing like leather." There is just as much to say about the works as a training-ground for technical chemists, but little was heard of this. Some scheme to utilise both will be the best solution of the difficult problem of the works chemist.

Approved Societies and Appliances.

THE members of the London Insurance Committee, whose meeting we reported last week, debated at length the proposal to send the report of their Medical Referees to the Departmental Committee which is investigating malingerer. The gist of this report is that there is little real malingerer, but a considerable amount of general debility from removable causes, and, although it relates to so short a period, the report foreshadows those from other parts of the country because it covers such a large number of insured persons. National Insurance is bringing to light cases of suffering among workpeople previously hidden owing to lack of provision for medical treatment and fear of losing money during unemployment. Four striking instances were mentioned at the meeting in which the Sickness Benefit funds had been depleted owing to lack of proper treatment and appliances. We mention these:

An insured person on the funds from April 30 to September 6 was found by the Medical Referee to need a belt for support. The patient on getting this was declared off.

A second insured person was on the funds from October 1 to November 4 suffering from headache. This proved to be a case of astigmatism and hypermetropia. On the eyes being attended to the patient became fit for work.

Another person, on the funds from May 27 to July 9, was cured by the provision of spectacles for astigmatism.

The fourth case related to a patient who was drawing sickness benefit from June 19 to July 19. All that was wanted was a proper belt.

Examination of the National Insurance Acts and Regulations show that approved societies have no power to spend money in alleviating such cases and thus stopping the drain on their funds. The Medical Benefit Regulations give Insurance Committees power to provide expensive appliances on loan only. Section 36 of the 1911 Act rendered a valuation of assets and liabilities of approved societies a necessity at the end of three years from the time that the Act came into force, and any surplus funds may be used for providing any one or more of the additional benefits mentioned in the Fourth Schedule attached to the Act. Again, approved societies under Section 13 of the same Act can submit for approval of the Commissioners proposals to vary benefits by substituting any of the additional benefits for Sickness Benefit, or Disablement Benefit, or any part thereof. It will be noticed that the Fourth Schedule contains dental treatment as an additional benefit, this being the only one which interests chemists. Optical treatment is entirely outside the scope of the Act at

present. The nearest approach to provision of appliances at the expense of approved societies is Section 12 (2), where Sickness, Disablement, or Maternity Benefit, due to insured persons undergoing treatment in a hospital or a home and not used in paying the cost of such treatment, may be applied for the provision of surgical appliances which may be required. The approved societies are at present rather in a quandary through not being able to spend shillings which might save them pounds. Indeed, one representative of a women's approved society welcomed the report as emphasising the limitations of the schedule of appliances. Following the line of least resistance the approved societies will, through the Insurance Committees, on which they are in a majority, make strong representation for enlarging the schedule. It will be recalled that attempts have already been made to get trusses and elastic stockings added to the list of appliances. Panel chemists are directly interested in this matter, especially if the friendly societies put forward any suggestion for payment from the Drug Fund of this addition to Medical Benefit. Every addition to the Drug Tariff means further calls upon the 1s. 6d. plus 6d. allotted for drugs and appliances, and ultimately discounting which the chemist alone suffers. Spectacles, abdominal belts, and artificial teeth would save approved societies much money at present spent in Sickness Benefit, and it seems only reasonable that these means to health should be a charge upon the societies; certainly not on chemists. Our readers at home should therefore keep their eyes open for what is to be proposed by the Departmental Committee, and after that by Parliament.

Society of Public Analysts.

At the evening meeting of this Society, on December 3, a paper by Mr. C. Simmonds, B.Sc., on *The Determination of Strychnine in the Presence of Quinine* was read in abstract by Mr. P. Ellis Richards, Honorary Secretary, in the absence of the author.

The author pointed out that there are two processes given in Allen's "Commercial Organic Analysis," but a footnote explains that they are not very satisfactory. The process which he had found to give results closely approximating to accuracy is one depending on the following principles: The alkaloids are first separated from the preparation containing them in the usual manner by rendering the solution alkaline and extracting with a suitable solvent. They are then dissolved in dilute sulphuric acid, and the strychnine precipitated by means of a solution of potassium ferrocyanide. The acid must be of sufficient strength to prevent co-precipitation of quinine, and the ferrocyanide must be in sufficient excess to ensure complete precipitation of the strychnine. The precipitate will contain a small amount of quinine, so that it is necessary to dissolve it in dilute ammonia and extract the strychnine contaminated with quinine by means of an organic solvent. The recovered alkaloids are again dissolved in dilute acid and reprecipitated by potassium ferrocyanide. The precipitate will now be practically free from quinine, and is rendered alkaline and the free strychnine extracted in the usual manner, and weighed as such.

DR. ARTHUR LYNCH, M.P., as a reviewer, is the first of a series of "Studies of Reviewers" in "Punch." Those who remember his questions to witnesses before the Select Committee on Patent Medicines in regard to some French scientists' investigations on the sense of smell will appreciate it. Here is an extract:

I often marvel why it is that in such a book as Wambly's, the product of an esoteric *cénacle* of choice spirits, the application of the craniometrical test should be conspicuous by its absence. I know that the Italian anthropologist, Sergi, has led a revolt against metrical methods of all kinds. I am content to take my stand under the banner of Poupinas, the French, and Blödifil, the Hungarian, expert. Skobeleff, who taught me scouting, had practically no back to his head. Pericles's head was compared to a sea-squill or sea-onion, which has a large acrid bulbous root. And that brings me to the important point that all first-rate genius is bulbocephalic.

The Originator of "The Chemist and Druggist."

At 37 Harrington Gardens, London, S.W., on Tuesday Morning, December 2, 1913, Mr. Septimus Vaughan Morgan, in his eighty-second year.

WE record with the deepest regret the death of Mr. Septimus Vaughan Morgan, one of the six brothers who in 1856 came together in business as the firm of Morgan Brothers, merchants, in the City of London. Mr. Morgan had been in his customary good health until the beginning of October, when a recurrence of bronchitis, which troubled him at this season of the year, was followed by a pleuritic attack that weakened him sorely. On Monday evening he sank into unconsciousness, and passed away on Tuesday morning in the presence of Mrs. Morgan and their son (Mr. G. V. Morgan) and daughter (Mrs. Leopold Hudson).

Mr. Septimus Vaughan Morgan was the seventh son of the late Thomas Morgan, of Glasbury, and Marianne, daughter of William Vaughan, of Brecon, and was born on November 2, 1832. Like his brother, Sir Walter Vaughan Morgan, Bart. (the sixth son of the family), he was educated at Christ's Hospital, Newgate Street, London, and in 1847 was apprenticed to a general medical practitioner in the country. That over, he proposed to return to London in order to "walk the hospitals," preliminary to taking the diplomas of the Royal Colleges; but his older brother, William, had a few years before acquired the business of Halse & Son, merchants, druggists' sundriesmen, and hardware factors, in Jewin Street, continuing it as Morgan & Rees, and when Mr. Rees wanted to retire Mr. William Morgan asked his brother Septimus to take his place, which he did. The firm name became Morgan Brothers, and subsequently they were joined by their oldest brother, Thomas, then by Walter, Octavius, and Edward, each bringing to the organisation knowledge of a distinct branch of trade, each supervising one department of the business, and all working together harmoniously, with a bundle of faggots as their trade-mark—an apt emblem. By 1859, the year in which THE

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST was established, Morgan Brothers contemplated a removal to Cannon Street into a palatial warehouse extending down the southern part of Bow Lane, which they did, but a few years later they had to vacate their new warehouse, when the Underground Railway was constructed and the site required for the Mansion House Station. Then they moved across the lane

to Colonial Buildings, 42 Cannon Street, where Morgan Brothers still are, although it is several decades since the firm gave up business as merchants, the premises now being occupied solely by THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and *The Ironmonger* editorial and publishing staffs.

The history of the foundation of these newspapers was fully told in our issue of July 31, 1909, on the occasion of our fiftieth anniversary; but again certain facts may fitly be mentioned. It was in Mr. Septimus Morgan's brain that the idea of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST originated, and it was he who planned its form and devised the nature of its contents. Mr. Morgan had not reached his twenty-seventh birthday when the idea occurred to him, and in recalling it we cannot do better than quote

his own words as to the matter:

"Morgan Brothers were among the first to fall in with Saturday afternoon closing. I stayed behind one of those Saturdays to clear some things off, and I remember as the afternoon went on and I got through my work I lighted a cigar, and began to think of the hit we had made with the 'Metal Trades Advertiser,' which we had brought out in May as a literary supplement to our hardware price-list, and it had caught on at once. Customers round Birmingham immediately advertised situations in it, and assistants used it to get berths—there were dozens of ways in which we found it to be useful to those who read it. It was doing Morgan Brothers' business good, too, and that set me musing: 'Why should we not bring out a journal for chemists and druggists as well?' The more I thought of it, the



THE LATE SEPTIMUS VAUGHAN MORGAN.
(From the portrait by Mr. Arthur Hacker, R.A.)

surer I felt that somebody would bring out a trade journal of the kind I had in my mind, so I jotted down some notes of my thoughts, and these were the beginning of the *C. & D.* What it should be called was not a problem, I felt that a trade journal for chemists and druggists should be called 'The Chemist and Druggist,' and that the surest way of our securing the title was to start the paper. I spoke about it to my brother William on the Monday. He was enthusiastic, and the others agreed. So there you are."

The living presence then accounted for the rest. The energy, the enthusiasm, and the knowledge of the business which Mr. Morgan put into this journal—from that time until he initiated his son, Mr. Gwyn Vaughan Morgan, into it and he became a partner—were not mentioned by Mr. Morgan, but they were very real to those who worked at 42 Cannon Street. Right from the beginning his interest in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST was active. While he was in London he had no time amidst the demands of a growing export business to write, but he was a constant critic and adviser. This rôle commenced with the first number, which was edited by his brother William, who asked for criticisms and suggestions. Mr. Septimus's replies were so apt and informative that he was asked to keep them up, and he did so for fifty years. All parts of the paper were dealt with, and the notes showed an intimacy with pharmacy that frequently surprised the pharmacists who received them, while his appreciations encouraged, his suggestions improved, and his wide knowledge of the British Empire and of men and affairs was reflected in his memoranda.

Mr. Morgan was a great traveller and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. He paid his first visit to Canada and the United States in 1859 and 1860. He went there to sell goods and to plan for developments of his firm's export business. During the visit he wrote to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST interesting and informative letters about what he observed, and these are to be found in our earliest volumes. It is possible to trace in these early letters Mr. Morgan's appreciation of the future of Canada, and in the course of a few years, as the result of visits to the Colonies by his partners and himself, he became an Imperialist of the best type, and he and his brother, Mr. Octavius Vaughan Morgan (who ultimately became first M.P. for Battersea, in which borough the Morgan Crucible Works are situated), were amongst the founders of the Imperial Federation League. Mr. Morgan was also a founder of the Royal Colonial Institute, and a member of its Council until two years ago. These facts reflect in a measure the reason why THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has from the beginning been a journal of the British Empire, and not merely an English journal; the men behind it were imperial in outlook, and wherever they went they carried the interests of their journals with them. During his first visit to the United States Mr. Morgan made the acquaintance of many leading American pharmacists, and arranged for a periodical American letter for publication. On a subsequent visit he got Professor Remington, then still in the twenties, to take up that work, and, by a remarkable coincidence, a communication from the Professor has been received for this issue.

In all his travels Mr. Morgan kept in touch with 42 Cannon Street, where he had always been most warmly esteemed by the staff. We have a record of this in an address presented to him by them in 1891, on the eve of his departure on a tour round the world. The address was written by the late Mr. A. C. Wootton, and it expresses so happily and sincerely what everyone felt that it may be quoted :

In view of the long journey you are about to undertake round the world, we whose daily occupations have brought our lives into association with yours, wish to express our most cordial desire that the tour may prove both enjoyable and beneficial in all respects to you and to your family. The voyages which you contemplate cannot fail to furnish much and varied interest; we trust they will also yield stores of health, strength, and pleasurable reminiscences from which you will all be able to draw for many years afterwards.

We take this opportunity of assuring you of our warm appreciation of your never failing courtesy, kindness, and consideration towards each and all of us. And it is with

extreme satisfaction that we here record our unanimous recognition of your many efforts to ensure the pleasantness and comfort of the business part of our lives.

We shall miss with regret your genial presence and your valued guidance from the office during the eighteen months of your projected absence, and we shall heartily welcome the announcement of your return.

We ask to be allowed to extend this expression of esteem and regard for you personally to your son, Mr. Gwyn Vaughan Morgan (who has won golden opinions during the short time he has been among us), and we further ask that our respectful salutations may be conveyed to Mrs. Morgan and to Miss Morgan.

In that tour round the world Mr. Morgan renewed many old acquaintances and made new friendships. We may mention, as an instance of his interest in the craft, that when in Brisbane he attended the annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland, and addressed the members with such effect that even by a recent mail we had in a letter from a Queensland pharmacist a message of regard to Mr. Morgan. The charm of his personality attracted men. He was brilliant in conversation, whatever the subject might be, and as good a listener when there was a prospect of learning something that he wanted to know. There is a table at the Reform Club in Pall Mall where for many years a group of men were wont to lunch together frequently. One by one the number diminished as the years crept upon them, Mr. Morgan being one of the last. Amongst the group were also the first Baron Holden, the late Sir Samuel Montagu (Lord Swaythling), Sir John Robinson, of the "Daily News," and other commercial or literary men who had attained distinction through their own merits. They had interests in common and infinite pleasure in each other's company—a notable group, even in so celebrated a club as the Reform.

To those who spend their days in 42 Cannon Street it will always be a happy recollection that in spite of the calls upon his time Mr. Morgan on his occasional visits quickly identified himself with the newer interests, so that even the younger ones felt better by his presence. The last occasion he was with us was at Oxford in June, when his son took the chair at the outing given annually by the firm to the staff. Mr. Morgan's interest was as keen as ever, and he chatted about the changes which had taken place in City life since he came into it of a morning on his cob, putting it up in livery stables near by. He had a few words to say to the company when called upon, and these remain in the memory, just as his influence will be felt, as long as there are at 42 Cannon Street those who have come directly in contact with him.

The funeral service will be conducted in All Saints' Church, Finchley Road, St. John's Wood, on Friday, December 5, at eleven o'clock. Thereafter the body will be conveyed to Golders Green for cremation.

The offices of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, E.C., will be closed from ten o'clock in the morning until two o'clock in the afternoon.

WILLS PROVEN.

MR. ARTHUR LEGG SNOW, chemist and druggist, 13 Walcot Parade, Bath, who died on October 28, left estate valued for probate at 294L 18s. gross.

MR. DAVID MACKAY, chemist and druggist, Ballacurrie, Onchan, Douglas, Isle of Man, who died on April 26, left estate valued at 921L 2s. gross.

MR. GEORGE ELLIS, chemist and druggist, 61 Stretton Road, Leicester, who died on September 28, left estate valued at 1,460L 10s. 11d. gross, with net personalty 582L 11s. 11d.

MR. JAMES RICHARDSON, chemist and druggist, Thornleigh, Moorland Avenue, Poulton-le-Fylde, who died on July 29, left estate of the gross value of 14,950L 15s., of which the net personalty has been sworn at 2,819L 9s. 4d.

PROFESSOR JOHN CAMPBELL, M.L., F.R.C.P.I., Hazelwood House, Dundrum, co. Dublin, retired professor of chemistry, who died on September 11, left personal estate in the United Kingdom valued at 21,314L 2s. 11d., of which 5,036L 5s. 11d. is in England.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Council-meeting.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on December 3. All the Councillors were present and the meeting was a short one. Reference was made to the death of Mr. F. U. Stamp and Mrs. A. E. Tanner. The Treasurer stated that the Benevolent Fund has received a legacy of 100*l.* from the executors of the late John Bellamy, Birmingham. The Orphan Fund has also received a memorial donation of 20*l.* from friends of the late Mr. W. A. Arbuckle. From the Fund 12*l.* was voted in relief of applicants for assistance. A meeting of delegates from the Pharmaceutical Insurance Committees is to be held in London on January 21.

THE Councillors present were : Mr. E. White (President), Mr. A. S. Campkin (Vice-President), Mr. W. H. Gibson (Treasurer), and Messrs. C. B. Allen, F. E. Bilson, W. G. Cross, J. H. Cuff, W. L. Currie, F. J. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, D. Gilmour, A. Hagon, J. F. Harrington, E. T. Neathercoat, L. M. Parry, F. A. Rogers, P. F. Rowsell, F. P. Sargeant, T. A. White, and J. R. Young.

DEATHS.

The meeting began punctually at eleven o'clock. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed,

The PRESIDENT referred to the death of Mr. F. U. Stamp, whose career was cut short by a sad accident. He had been an Examiner for several years, and the Society might have looked forward, but for his untimely death, to his co-operation for many years. Mention was also made of the death of the wife of Mr. A. E. Tanner, a former Examiner. Mrs. Tanner was well known in pharmaceutical social circles. The Secretary was instructed to send letters of condolence to the relatives.

RESTORATIONS.

There were no elections, but some chemists were restored to their former positions in the Society. Some restorations were made to the Register of Chemists and Drug-gists.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The TREASURER then presented the report of the Finance Committee. According to this the receipts of the General Fund during November were 771*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, made up as follows : Penalties and costs, 219*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*; subscriptions, 45*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; "Journal" and publications, 287*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*; restoration-fees, etc., 13*l.* 13*s.*; registration-fees, 130*l.* 4*s.*; school-fees, 21*l.*; rent of 15 Bloomsbury Square, 54*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* After deducting the payments authorised at the last Council-meeting there remained the sum of 408*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* The following amounts were recommended for payment : "Journal" and publications, 282*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*; stationery, etc., 48*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.*; current expenses, 530*l.*; salaries, etc., 882*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*; school and examinations, 69*l.* 17*s.*; law charges, 41*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*; house, 81*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; library, 4*l.* 10*s.*—a total of 1,939*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* The balances on the Benevolent Fund account were as follows : Current account, 734*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* (recommended for payment 136*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*); donation account, 12*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*; Orphan Fund, 42*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*

In moving the adoption of the report the TREASURER said the amount received last month as penalties and costs exceeded by over 100*l.* the receipts of the corresponding period of the previous year. The registration-fees have also increased by 6*l.*, while the payments are 600*l.* less, chiefly on account of the change in producing the "Journal." Continuing, the Treasurer pointed out that the subscriptions to the Benevolent Fund are 20*l.* less, the balance being 109*l.* below what it was a year ago. The Fund has received, however, a legacy of 100*l.* from the executors of the late John Bellamy, of Birmingham. Other donations have been from the Bath and West of

England College of Pharmacy, 1*l.*; students at Gordon Hall, 8*s.*; and to the Orphan Fund 20*l.* as a memorial of the late W. A. Arbuckle, whose death was announced in the *C. & D.*, November 15.

The report was adopted.

BENEVOLENT FUND COMMITTEE.

The report of this committee was considered *in camera*, after which

Mr. ROGERS, in moving the adoption of the report, mentioned that 12*l.* had been granted to seven applicants. He referred to the deficiency in the receipts and also to the election next week, urging even those with only one vote to use it and show their interest in the Fund.

The PRESIDENT referred to the sum of 20*l.* received as a memorial of the late Mr. W. A. Arbuckle.

The report was adopted.

Resolutions were passed authorising the Treasurer to make payments (1) to those who may be elected on the Benevolent Fund next week, and (2) of 30*l.* towards the support of Margaret E. Sell in the Watford Orphan Asylum.

LIBRARY, ETC., COMMITTEE.

The PRESIDENT presented the report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee. Among the items dealt with was a recommendation to appoint Mr. J. C. Jinks as Demonstrator in Pharmaceutics in place of Mr. Sharp, who was to leave at the end of November. The Librarian was directed to purchase the "Annales de Chimie" for the library in place of the two journals into which the "Annales de Chimie et de Physique" is to be divided. The Curator suggested that the Chinese pharmacy oil-mill and chest of drawers in his possession be presented to the Wellcome Historical Museum. The Librarian of Birmingham University asked for, and was recommended to be supplied with, a free copy of the "Journal" which the Society discontinued in 1908. Accounts for house repairs, amounting to 6*l.* 13*s.*, were approved.

The report was adopted.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

The superintendents and deputy-superintendents of written examinations were reappointed as follows : London : C. B. Allen, H. Moon; Edinburgh : C. F. Henry, J. Nesbit; Manchester : H. Kemp, C. Swinn:

APPRENTICES REGISTERED.

The REGISTRAR reported the registration of apprentices or students during the month. The number was not stated, but

Mr. GILMOUR expressed the opinion that it was larger than usual.

The PRESIDENT agreed.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE.

Mr. NEATHERCOAT presented the report of this committee, which met on December 2. It was reported that communications had been received from the Resident Secretary in Scotland pointing out that the Society's organisation in Scotland had been entrusted to the Executive of the Society's North British Branch, and that in the view of the Executive it would be advisable to appoint the Divisional Secretaries for Scotland for the ensuing year. The committee thought the suggestion should be adopted, and recommended the Council to appoint forthwith the officers contained in the list submitted to the Council at its meeting in November. The President reported on his visit with the Secretary to Sheffield and on the district meeting in London on November 12. He also attended the annual dinner of the Bradford Pharmacists' Association and a meeting of Hammersmith pharmacists. Mr. Allen and Mr. Bilson reported on the district meeting at Poole on November 9. Mr. Cross on a meeting of Shropshire chemists, Mr. Currie gave his experiences at Leeds, and Mr. Sargeant reported on a meeting he attended at Oldham. The following paragraph refers to the meeting of delegates fixed for next month :

The committee took into consideration the arrangements to be made for the proposed meeting of delegates, which had been postponed from November 26. Considerable discussion took place as to whether the delegates should be selected by Pharmaceutical Insurance Committees or by the

local Pharmaceutical Associations themselves, and eventually a vote was taken, the majority being in favour of the Pharmaceutical Committees of local Associations; and it was finally resolved to recommend to the Council that the meeting should take place on Wednesday, January 21, at 11 A.M., and that those Pharmaceutical Insurance Committees numbering eight or less than eight members should be asked to send one delegate; Committees of nine to twelve, two delegates; and Committees of thirteen to sixteen, three delegates.

The Chairman, with the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, were appointed a sub-committee to arrange the procedure at the meeting, and to provide for the distribution to the Pharmaceutical Committees of a full agenda of the business to be transacted. It was also decided that a copy of any scheme adopted by the Council for federating the Pharmaceutical Committees should be sent out with the agenda.

The Secretary was requested to endeavour to furnish each member of the Council with a copy of the scheme which was provisionally adopted at the last Council-meeting.

Mr. HARRINGTON referred to the inauguration of the Ealing Pharmacists' Association.

After discussing the report in committee the report was adopted.

Mr. HAGON presumed that the members of Council would be invited to the meeting of delegates.

The PRESIDENT said that invitations would be sent.

The Divisional Secretaries for Scotland were elected, a few alterations being made in the list since last year.

Mr. GILMOUR referred to the complete system of organisation existing in Scotland.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters were received from the Privy Council approving of the appointment of Examiners, and forwarding a copy of a decree recently issued by the Swiss Federal Council relating to the registration of physicians, dentists, chemists, and veterinary surgeons.

The Colonial Office forwarded a copy of the Pharmacy Act Amendment Act of Ontario.

The Bury and West Suffolk Pharmacists' Association wrote regarding the omission of Latin as a compulsory subject from the Preliminary examination, which the Association consider "most unwise and retrograde."

Mr. GILMOUR: It should be pointed out that it is the action of the Board of Education that has controlled the decision.

The PRESIDENT: I think we should point out the importance of getting young men registered before apprenticeship, and that sentimental reasons for retaining Latin had to be put aside.

The Scarborough Pharmacists' Association asked the Council to take further steps to protect those who carry on the business of chemists and druggists.

The Royal University of Ireland asked for the recognition of their Matriculation examination. [This is to be considered by the Boards of Examiners.]

The South-West London Pharmacists' Association urged the Council to form a committee to deal with all matters concerning pharmaceutical service under the National Insurance Act.

The Educational Institute of Scotland submitted particulars of a pharmaceutical Preliminary examination for which they desire recognition. [This is in continuation of previous communications, about which it is thought some misunderstanding has arisen. The Council do not desire the institution of a special pharmaceutical Preliminary examination. Mr. Currie is to call on the Secretary of the Institute.]

The Liverpool Chemists' Association sent a resolution regarding pharmaceutical federation, in which the desire was expressed that the Associations and not the Pharmaceutical Insurance Committees should be federated.

Among the formal letters was one from the late Mr. F. U. Stamp, dated November 3, thanking the Council for appointing him an Examiner.

This concluded the public business.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

PROFESSOR PATRICK GEDDES, F.R.S.E., Professor of Botany, University College, Dundee, and Director of the Cities and Town Planning Exhibition, delivered the

inaugural Sessional Address of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, on November 28, at 36 York Place, Edinburgh. Mr. J. P. Gilmour presided over a large attendance. The Chairman briefly introduced the lecturer, whose subject was

"EDINBURGH SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRIES AND THEIR POSSIBLE ADVANCEMENT."

He said that as the city surveys of the Outlook Tower had gradually developed into an exhibition of growing comprehensiveness, and almost world-wide appeal as regards town planning and city design, so it is next hoped similarly to develop further surveys and exhibitions upon the side of industries and education, beginning with a more intensive study than heretofore of these activities in Edinburgh, and proceeding towards comparison with other cities. At first he had thought of devoting his main time with the possible developments of pharmacy, but he felt that most of them would know the subject much better than he could have hoped to express it, and perhaps he might express his meaning even for pharmacy by taking a more general view. The records, activities, and aims of existing Edinburgh agencies, industrial, commercial, and educational, have not yet been co-ordinated into a general survey of the city's life, and for the comprehension and the guidance of this, a survey of each of the main Edinburgh industries, in its relation to science, and to art, etc., also, is urgently desirable, and might ere long ripen towards fruit. As examples of the successful correlation of the scientific advances of Edinburgh with its local industries, those of anaesthetics and antiseptics, of alkaloids and essences, were familiarly known. He referred to chloroform-making, which is a world-metropolitan industry, and with an apology to the chloroform-makers present, he described the scene when Sir James Young Simpson and his colleagues discovered the anaesthetic. One saw them, as it were, emerging from under the table in that immortal orgie after, it may be, a period of happy intoxication. He also mentioned morphine and its allies as being characteristically one of the great Edinburgh industries, and also coffee essence. These are cases in which everybody saw the uses and value of chemistry. He asked, Is the Pharmaceutical Society fully satisfied with such relation as it possesses to the schools of chemical research in Edinburgh? Does there exist a full and free interchange of ideas between the scientific and pharmaceutical or manufacturing chemists, or are these confined to occasional papers there or elsewhere? This correlation, he said, might be cultivated and made much closer. Proceeding to speak of some of the failures, apart from the successful industries, he wondered if people realised the stupendous loss to the city of the telephone and phonograph industries, involved a generation ago by the emigration of Professor Bell, or of the manufacture of the student's microscope, the old-fashioned type of which he humorously described as recalling the marvels of artillery, and it was about as costly. These losses afforded convincing evidence of the disadvantage to a community whose scientists and inventors, industrialists and publicists, are not in intelligent and active contact with each other and with the public generally. As an encouraging and comparatively recent instance of the fruitful interplay of industry and ideas, the life-work of the late Mr. Robert Irvine, of Granton, was cited. Down at Granton Mr. Irvine made the ink for most of the papers in the world. What is ink? It is little more than burning resin into soot, and then mixing it up with oil. No doubt the cooking of the resin and the mixing of the oil are great studies, but the lecturer left that to the experts. The making of printers' ink is a question of making soot in the first place—an industry in which our country had been so long and honourably identified. (Laughter.) Smoke is good money wasted, and the soot-maker, as he might call the ink-maker, saw with regret the waste of a single puff of smoke. To condense smoke and get it as far as possible into ink and not into the sky was Mr. Irvine's practical problem. But beyond this he came to discuss the question of smoke abatement. That led him from the soot-flake to the microbe, and in turn led him to founding the Chair

of Bacteriology in Edinburgh University. They might develop this association of ideas in incalculable ways. Directions in which the city might develop were then suggested.

Mr. DOTT said it was a very interesting, stimulating, and suggestive address. He did not think it was likely that Edinburgh would become a great manufacturing city; one of the reasons being that it is very largely an educational, residential place, and its traditions are rather against it being developed into a great manufacturing centre. He remarked also that municipal officials seem rather inclined to block and obstruct than to encourage new industries in Edinburgh.

Mr. THOS. STEPHENSON also spoke, and the lecturer acknowledged the vote of thanks.

Mr. RUTHERFORD HILL intimated additions to the library and museum, and the donors were thanked. Specimens of Abyssinian cardamoms sent by Mr. Murray, Edinburgh, and of native sulphate of magnesia found in a pit at Cowdenbeath 450 feet below the surface, sent by Mr. Yule, of Cowdenbeath, were shown.

Society of Chemical Industry.

A MEETING of the London Section took place on December 1 at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W. Dr. W. R. Hodgkinson was in the chair, and in introducing Dr. E. J. Russell, who delivered a lecture on

SOIL STERILISATION,

he remarked that the Rothamsted Agricultural Research Laboratory, with which the lecturer is connected, is the oldest of its kind in the world. Dr. Russell began by mentioning that the research on the use of antiseptics for soil sterilisation originated through an accident to the laboratory steriliser. Experiments were being conducted as to the effect on bacterial activity of soil sterilised by heating to 130° C., and owing to an accident to the steriliser the temperature could only be raised to 90° C. It was found that the bacterial activity increased very much in this partially sterilised soil, and there was also an increase in the rate at which ammonia was produced, this latter property being one of the chief reasons for the increase of the productivity of the soil. A series of experiments proved that partial sterilisation kills protozoa, which play a part in keeping down the activity of the bacteria. Thus it was established that there are two groups of soil organisms—one which produces ammonia, and the other, on the whole detrimental, easily destroyed by heat, cold, sunshine, and chemical antiseptics. This led to experiments on soil sterilisation by means of chemical antiseptics. These were conducted with two groups of antiseptics : (1) those entirely volatile, and (2) those not so volatile, the laboratory proof of action of the antiseptics being the effect on the bacteria. Of the volatile antiseptics, toluene is the best, benzene is similar in action, but cyclohexane and hexane are ineffectual. The alcohols are not nearly so active, but ether and chloroform are more potent. Carbon disulphide is the most effectual of this series. With regard to the non-volatile antiseptics, cresol, phenol, hydroquinone, and quinone were tried, and give a similar type of results—*i.e.*, approximately pure cultures of one group of bacteria are left capable of developing in the presence of the antiseptic. Formaldehyde gives abnormal results. There is no sharp rise in the number of bacteria, but there is a rise in the production of ammonia. Pyridine, although not, strictly speaking, an antiseptic, is the nearest approach to a nitrogenous antiseptic. It was found to be a good diet for bacteria, which increased enormously on it. Next was studied the effect of the antiseptics on the plant independent of the action on insect-pests, soil-disease organisms, and change in the bacterial flora. This can only be found by actual experiments, which are being conducted by growers on various soils. It was mentioned that manuring the plants, in addition, with ammonium sulphate or nitrate made the results all alike, because in these circumstances the plant already has more ammonia than it wants. The order of merit for 1912 of the various substances employed is : (1) formaldehyde, pyridine, and

higher pyridine bases; (2) carbon disulphide, carbolic acid, cresylic acid, petrol, and toluol; (3) benzene and naphthalene. The order, however, will have to be modified as the result of later experiments. At this stage the lecturer announced that none of the chemical antiseptics is so good as steam, and in choosing the antiseptic the relative cost of steam and the alternative use of nitrate manures have to be considered in the treatment of "sick" soils. Steam is employed at a cost of about 1s. a ton of soil, and the lecturer reckoned from this that the chemical antiseptic must not cost more than 4d. a lb. A point against volatile antiseptics is that they are often insoluble in water, and hence do not act well in wet soil. The antiseptic may be a waste product, but it is necessary that it be capable of standardisation, and be placed on the market of uniform composition. It should not be too poisonous, or it may kill the crop, as do bleaching-powder, sulphuretted hydrogen, and sulphur dioxide. The present price of any given antiseptic is not necessarily the price at which it can be supplied if a demand is created. Calcium phosphate, for example, cost 4d. an oz. in 1842, before it was made on a commercial scale as superphosphate. A short discussion followed, which elicited the following points : Gas lime (at least the variety known as "blue billy") is an effective antiseptic, but the supply is uncertain; copper sulphate is not available, as it is rapidly precipitated by the carbonates in the soil; the anomalous action of formaldehyde may be due to combination with the proteins, and the volatility of toluene depends upon the physical nature of the soil.

A MEETING of the Nottingham Section was held jointly with the British Section of the International Association of Leather Trades Chemists at the University College, Nottingham, on November 28. Sir John Turney presided. Mr. S. R. Trotman read a paper entitled

NOTES ON STRYCHNINE TANNATE,
in which the author gave a description of a number of results which he had obtained with tanning materials, showing that a variation of the method which he formerly proposed gave results which agreed remarkably closely with the official hide-powder method, and also effect a great saving in time. The method consists in adding the tannin solution to an aqueous solution of strychnine acetate. The precipitate is then allowed to settle, filtered through a Gooch crucible, carefully dried, and weighed. The factor for converting strychnine tannate to tannin is 65.58. In the discussion Professor Stiasny expressed surprise that the factor is the same for all varieties of tannin, and Professor Kipping suggested the use of quinine and cinchonidine as precipitating agents. Mr. J. T. Wood then read a paper entitled

FURTHER NOTES ON ENZYMES,
in which a brief account of the most recent progress in enzyme chemistry was given. As an instance of the enormous activity of some enzymes, Mr. Wood quoted the results of O'Sullivan and Thompson, who found that invertase is capable of converting 200,000 times its weight of sugar. Enzymes, like living organisms, are destroyed and rendered inactive by exposure to the temperature of boiling water, but some, on standing, regain their activity to some extent. Reference was made to Abderhalden's work on following the rate and extent of enzyme action by observing the change of optical activity undergone by Fischer's synthetic optically active polypeptides when acted upon by enzymes. Tryptic enzymes are not confined to the animal kingdom; papain and erepsin are examples of tryptic enzymes occurring in the vegetable kingdom, the latter having been isolated from cauliflowers. Mr. Wood regarded the problem of the synthesis of enzymes as a long way from being solved, as so little is at present known with regard to the constitution of these bodies. It has lately been observed, however, that a mixture of hydrogen peroxide and ferrous sulphate in certain proportions is capable of liquefying starch similarly to an enzyme. Professor Kipping congratulated Mr. Wood on his work on enzymes; he also inquired whether the enzymes of dog-dung would digest bones. Professor Stiasny also acknowledged the indebtedness of leather chemists to Mr. Wood for his work on batting and puering.

National Health Insurance.

Administration of Medical Benefit as regards Chemists' Interests.

Medical Benefit Illustrated.



THE INSURANCE NIGHT BELL.

Medical Benefit Administration.

With special reference to the supply of medicines and appliances. See also Winter Session.

Banffshire.—At a meeting of the county Pharmaceutical Association in Keith on November 26, Mr. Clark presiding, the Secretary (Mr. R. W. Garrow) reported that the county Drug Fund showed:

	N. ^o . of Prescriptions	Chemists' Accounts	Average Cost per Prescription
1st quarter	... 5,110	... £218	... 1s. 2d.
2nd "	... 4,688	... £224	... 1s. 4d.
3rd "	... 4,489	... £216	... 1s. 6d.

The mean insured population of the county is about 11,200, and the Drug Fund averages about 210*l.* per quarter. The meeting decided to renew agreements with the Insurance Committee. The following were nominated for election on the Pharmaceutical Committee: Messrs. Gammie, Donaldson, Pirie, McMurtrie, and Garrow.

Blackburn. Joint conferences between medical men and chemists have been held in regard to the revised Drug Tariff. It is expected that all the chemists on the panel will sign the new agreements which have been sent out.

Blackpool.—The Insurance Committee on December 2 were again informed by the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee that they were being well served both by the doctors and the chemists, between whom the relations are most cordial.

Brighton.—The Insurance Committee on November 27 were informed by the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee that complaints from two panel chemists of a panel doctor directing his patients to take their prescriptions to a specified chemist were being looked into. Councillor Yates alledged preferential treatment of certain chemists' accounts but Dr. Fothergill (Acting Chairman) said there were special circumstances in those cases. The Sub-Committee reported that they had "again considered the complaint that a firm on the panel of chemists was not entitled to carry on the business of a chemist and druggist under the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, as amended by the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908." The Sub-Committee reported as follows:

"The business of the company had not, since May 28 last, been under the control and management of a superintendent who is

a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist; the business of the company had not, since the same date, been bona fide conducted under the direction of a superintendent or by any manager or assistant who is a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist; the managing director of the company is not a registered pharmacist or a person who for three years immediately prior to December 16, 1911, had acted as dispenser to any special practitioner or public institution; the managing director had dispensed prescriptions prepared by sundry practitioners for three years immediately prior to December 16, 1911; the Company has dispensed medicine for insured persons since May 28, 1913, and has charged the Committee in respect thereof. The Sub-Committee observed that the managing director of the Company had informed them that since May 28, 1913, the business had been in telephonic communication with a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist. The Sub-Committee recommended that representation be made to the Commissioners that the continuance of the company complained of on the list of persons, firms, or bodies corporate undertaking the dispensing of medicines will be prejudicial to the efficiency of the service within the County Borough of Brighton, and that no further moneys be paid to the Company pending the decision of the Commissioners on the representation referred to in the foregoing recommendation, but that the Commissioners be requested, in any event, to authorise the Committee to pay to the Company any accounts rendered by the Company to October 14th inst., and charged in accordance with the Drug Tariff in force."

The report was adopted.

Cornwall.—At the quarterly meeting of the Insurance Committee on November 26 a proposal to publish the individual amounts paid to doctors and pharmacists was defeated. On the suggestion of Mr. H. H. Cannon (pharmaceutical representative), it was decided to pay chemists' accounts in full during the second week of each month, and that such corrections as may be necessary be made on paying the third month in each quarter. It was reported that 1,034*l.* had been paid to chemists, being 75 per cent. of the accounts for two months. Subsequently the Medical and Pharmaceutical Sub-Committees met and settled some outstanding matters. The Clerk has given notice that chemists' receipts to the Committee are exempt from stamp-duty.

Denbighshire.—A meeting of the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Pharmacists' Association was held at the Imperial Hotel, Wrexham, on November 27, with Mr. C. G. Caldecott in the chair. Members from Wrexham, Cefn, Coedpoeth, and Rhos were present. The model agreements were accepted, and the Drug Tariff as agreed upon by the Welsh Standing Committee endorsed. The new Medical Benefit Regulations were examined in detail. It was recommended that a meeting of the East and West Denbighshire pharmacists should be held at Chester at an early date.

Derbyshire.—The Medical Benefit Committee of the Derbyshire Insurance Committee received on November 28 a deputation from the county doctors and chemists in regard to the agreements for next year. Representatives of institutions also attended. Mr. Thwaite moved, and Mr. Close (Vice-President of the Chesterfield Medical Aid Association) seconded, that the institutions in the county (Derby and Chesterfield) be approved. Mr. E. C. Barnes (Chairman of the General Committee) submitted an amendment to the effect that such approval be given, subject to the proviso that the supply of medicines by the institutions be not sanctioned. He stated that he had considered carefully the points raised by the representative of pharmacy on the Committee, and several points stood out, in his opinion, as good reasons why institutions ought not to supply medicines—"free choice of chemist" is not possible under such an arrangement. Dr. Duncan (a barrister) seconded the amendment, stating that under Proviso iii. of Sub-section 5 no arrangements for the supply of medicines can be made other than with a chemist, and that these institutions are not chemists within the meaning of the Act. Sub-section 4 gives no authority to institutions to supply medicines. The amendment was lost by ten votes to seven. The revised Drug Tariff, subject to certain additions in the notes (prohibition of stock mixtures, certain restrictions as to repeats, etc.), was adopted, and the revised agreement form for pharmacists.

Devon. At the meeting of the Insurance Committee on December 1 it was reported that payment had been made from the Sanatorium Benefit Fund of 42*l.* 11s. 1d. for drugs, etc., and from the Drug Fund of 5,851*l.* 0s. 11d. Mr. P. F. Rowsell presented the report of the Sanatorium and Medical Benefit Sub-Committee. In referring to the list, the Committee had found that it is expedient to make a list of articles which should not be prescribed as chargeable to the Drug Fund. Mr. Rowsell said it is "a very right and proper one" which would be added to from time to time. He did not anticipate that there would be any difficulties in regard to the new agreements being signed. The Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance for England,

of which body he happened to be the Chairman, had taken what he considered to be an exceedingly wise and important step in laying down in the new Tariff standards for dressings. Representatives of insured persons were appointed on the Pharmaceutical Services Sub-Committee and the Joint Services Sub-Committee.

Dundee.—From 6 to 8 are the evening hours that panel doctors see insured persons in their consulting-rooms. These were considered to be inadequate, as not suiting the convenience of shop-assistants. The Burgh Insurance Committee have considered the matter, and decided last week not to alter or extend the hours. Chemists are pleased, because an extension might have kept them open later.

Edinburgh. At the meeting of the Insurance Committee on November 27 it was stated that the Insurance Commissioners did not approve of the Committee employing a chemist to check prescriptions. A letter was read from the Glasgow Insurance Committee, stating that the appointment for this purpose of a lady chemist as a member of the staff at a salary of 130*l.* per annum had been sanctioned. It was added that the appointment had been fully justified. The fact that the number of insured persons on the register in Edinburgh is, roughly, one-third that of Glasgow, led to the remark that the prescription-checking expenses ought to be about 45*l.* The Convenor of the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee (Mr. J. Simpson) is to interview the Commissioners on the matter.

Essex.—The County Association of Pharmacists has sent out a circular containing the sixteen names given in our issue of November 15, with the addition of Mr. W. Maskew (Clacton) and Messrs. Foster and Spencer (Boots, Ltd.), members being left to select the sixteen for which to vote in the Pharmaceutical Committee election. We may state that those who vote for more than sixteen will render their voting-paper non-valid. A joint conference of representatives of panel doctors and chemists met the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee on December 1, in regard to the revised Tariff. The medical men, who have had an account report on the Drug Tariff calculations, argue that over a hundred are a $\frac{1}{4}d.$ or $\frac{1}{2}d.$ too high on the principles laid down in the first page of the Tariff. They will not hear anything about "the smaller the quantity ordered the larger the percentage of profit," or the extra care needed to measure out small quantities, but are out for their pound of flesh. They also object to the tincture prices. Matters as regards the Tariff ended with a deadlock, and chemists are being asked to sign agreements with a covering proviso in regard to the Drug Tariff. The Commissioners will not allow poison-bottles to be supplied on the deposit system.—A practitioner in the habit of prescribing many proprietary articles has been invited by the local Medical Committee to meet its Drug Sub-Committee "in friendly conference, with a view to possibly substituting equivalent remedies from the Insurance list of drugs."

Herefordshire.—In submitting the revised Drug Tariff to the Insurance Committee, Mr. J. J. Jackson (President of the County Chemists' Association) wrote explaining the alterations in detail, and also stated that chemists are not so fairly treated as doctors. The chemist is only paid for what he actually supplies, and the pricing of each single item entails endless clerical labour. Perhaps the pharmacist will not get more than 1*s.* 3*d.* *per capita*, while the doctor gets 1*s.* 6*d.* whether medicine is supplied or not. Chemists are not earning bricklayers' wages. It is also difficult to get good qualified assistants even at salaries double what they used to be. Under such conditions, he thought the Insurance Committee should see that the chemists' allowance be made up to at least 1*s.* 6*d.* *per capita*. Mr. Caldwell remarked that he thought the chemists had made out a very good case. The letter was referred to the Medical Sub-Committee which the Insurance Committee decided on November 26 to appoint. This consists of ten members, two of whom are chemists.

Huddersfield.—A report to the Insurance Committee for the quarter ended July 14 shows that 31,133 prescriptions were dispensed by chemists, the total value after checking being 1,057*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* The cost of checking amounted to 15*s.* 11*s.* 6*d.* and the net saving by reduction of chemists' accounts was 5*s.* 6*s.* 10*d.* A recommendation from the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee was adopted, discontinuing the arrangements with the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance as regards checking prescriptions, and agreeing that payment be made of sums equal to 95 per cent. of the amount of chemists' accounts as presented.

Hull.—The monthly meeting of the Hull Pharmacists' Association was held on December 2 at the Grosvenor Hotel. Mr. T. Smith in the chair. There was an unusually large attendance. The principal business was the discussion of the prohibition of supply of proprietary medicines, etc., in

Insurance dispensing. The Insurance Committee, according to the statement of the Chairman, had given permission to supply proprietary goods up to January 12. This was in order that the chemists might get rid of their accumulated stocks. Mr. Walton said the remedy is in the hands of the doctors who prescribe proprietary articles. Mr. Snowden thought that the doctors should be stopped from prescribing things the chemists are not allowed to dispense. It was arranged that chemists should send lists of their stocks to the Secretary, so that exchanges might be made. It was reported that the following alterations had been made on the Tariff: Liq. iodi fort., 8*d.* oz.; inf. rosæ acid., 1*½**l.* for 3 oz.; iodiform gauze, 4*d.* a yd., 8*d.* for 3 yds., 1*s.* 3*d.* for 6 yds.; boric wool, 2*s.* a lb., 2*d.* oz. It was resolved to agitate for a better dispensing-fee. It was hoped the attention of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee would be drawn to the matter, and afterwards of the Insurance Committee, and they would have a better chance of securing the desired advance than if they sought it locally. Mr. Sellé explained the position of the Scottish chemists, and Mr. Stanning said that 1,000*l.*, or nearly so, would be added to the local cost if a penny advance is made. The Chairman said that if the 2*s.* limit is passed they might still go to 2*s.* 6*d.* if it is found necessary to get sanction for the higher sum.

Kent.—At a meeting of the Herne Bay Association of Pharmacists on November 26 the following resolutions were passed:

1. That while we appreciate much of the work done by the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee, we are of opinion that they at times forget that they are representing panel chemists' interests, and appear in instances to be representing the interests of Insurance Committees and insured persons. Two instances we may cite—first, the said Committee's unsuccessful attempt to make the chemists the national bottle-washers for all poison-bottles; the second is the insertion of standards for lints, bandages, etc., in their 1914 Tariff. We believe many counties had no complaints, and few, if any, chemists repeated their orders for the first offered N.I. brand and quality of these goods; in the face of this we fail to see the necessity of a standard. An increase in the Tariff price and a substitution of 6 yards bleached for the present 4-yard bandages would have been a better solution. We feel this standardisation to be an unnecessary and irksome addition to all the laws, acts, regulations, etc., already packed on our underpaid backs.

2. We are of opinion that the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee have endeavoured, in the production of their tariff and dispensing-fees, to keep too well within the estimated 1*s.* 6*d.* rate. We believe there were no real data upon which to form this estimate further than club medicine, which has no comparison with the present efficient medicine supply. We therefore think that the sooner the estimate of 1*s.* 6*d.* is proved insufficient, the better. There are now additional appliances to be found out of the same estimate. We are of opinion that the said Committee should endeavour in their Tariff to afford reasonable remuneration for our skill and time irrespective of the estimate, and leave our bills to be discounted when public opinion may help us. We do not at present suggest a higher percentage on the Tariff list, but we desire and need a higher skill-pay—i.e., dispensing charges—and if our bills are discounted it may lead to a fresh estimate. The doctors did not accept the Government's first estimate, and it is for chemists to prove that the present estimate is too low. But we would point out that the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee stand between the chemists and any better bargaining, inasmuch as that which is once printed in their Tariff is difficult, if not impossible, to remove or make more beneficial to chemists. Example—One county was able to overthrow the insertion regarding refunding on poison-bottles until the Commissioners saw the fallacy.

3. That the following be inserted in the 1914 agreement: Clause. This agreement may be determined by the chemist at any time if his account for the previous year has been discounted to an amount exceeding 5 per cent. of his total after allowing for deductions by errors.

4. That the following clause be inserted in the 1914 agreement: Clause. Any person, or his heirs, executors, or trustees, if deceased, desirous of terminating this agreement may, if he fail to arrange mutually with the Insurance Committee, make application for that purpose to the Pharmaceutical Committee, laying the facts of the case before the said Committee, who shall forthwith make such inquiry as they think necessary, and, after investigating the application, the said Committee shall take a vote on the application for and against; and if a majority are of opinion that the applicant should be relieved of the contract, either for health or financial reasons, transfer of business, expiration of tenancy, the effect of any strike directly or indirectly affecting the business of the applicant, or for any other substantial reason, the Pharmaceutical Committee shall forthwith make application to the Insurance Committee to determine the agreement of the applicant, and the said Insurance Committee will accept the Pharmaceutical Committee's application (or recommendation), and will determine the agreement of the applicant seven days from the receipt of the Pharmaceutical Committee's recommendation, and the Insurance Committee will notify the applicant and the Pharmaceutical Committee of the date of determination.

The Insurance Committee on November 26 agreed, subject to approval by the Insurance Commissioners, to the proposal (opposed by chemists, C. & D., October 4, index

folio 532) to pay a levy of a certain sum per insured person to the local Medical Committee, deducting such amounts, with the doctors' consent, from their quarterly payments.

Lanarkshire.—The meeting of the Lanarkshire Pharmacists' Association on November 26 was held in the rooms of the Glasgow Association, Mr. J. Hinksman (President) presiding over a fair attendance. Mr. J. B. McVitae was present as representative of the Glasgow Association. It was agreed to support the nomination of one panel chemist from each of the burghs for election to the County Pharmaceutical Committee. Surprise was freely expressed at the Commissioners' intention to retain a penny per insured person as a carry-over balance from the Drug Fund. This was considered most unreasonable, in view of Mr. Leishman's explicit agreement to disburse the available surplus, less a small balance. It was unanimously resolved to petition the six Insurance Committees to pay the bulk of the balance to chemists *pro rata*.

London.—The Executive Committee of the London County Association of Pharmacists met at 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on November 25, with Mr. Edmund White (President) in the chair. There was a full attendance of members. Mr. J. Keall reported upon the negotiations at a conference of chemists' and doctors' representatives held at 5 Chancery Lane, W.C. After Mr. Woolcock had given detailed information respecting alterations in the Tariff, a lively discussion ensued, during which Mr. Keall spoke from actual experience in defence of the Tariff charges. Mr. E. White, as chemists' representative on the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee, also gave reasons for advance and decrease in prices. Following the chemists' lucid exposition of the reasonableness of the charges, the doctors agreed on all points, and the Chairman then accepted the Tariff as submitted. The prices for the appliances recently added to the Second Schedule, and the lozenges added last week, were agreed upon as follows:

Borio wool, 2s. per lb.; 2d. per oz.; oiled cambric, 3s. in. wide, 1s. 9d. per yd.; sal-a-embroth wool, 2s. 6d. per lb., 2½d. per oz.; tow, 6d. per lb.; iodoform gauze, 1s. 3d. per roll; picric-acid gauze, 1s. 6d. per roll; linseed, liquorice, and chlorodyne lozenges, 2d. per oz., 6d. per ½ lb.; Brompton Hospital lozenges, 2d. per oz., 6d. per ½ lb.; sulphur lozenges (Garrod), rate of 3d. per doz. The "Rept. mist." difficulty was also discussed, diverse views being taken by doctors and pharmacists. The chemists' strong case evoked complete sympathy from the Chairman and members of the Insurance Sub-Committee present. The parties concerned not being able, however, to come to an agreement, the matter was referred for consideration jointly by the new statutory Pharmaceutical and Panel Committees, when it is hoped this nuisance to chemists will be settled. The Executive has decided to recommend panel chemists to sign the new agreements. A sum of 5s. was voted to the Secretary (Mr. G. A. Tocher) as petty cash expenses, each Association paying its proportionate share.—The nominations for election to the County Pharmaceutical Committee are fifteen chemists (one not put forward by County Association) and five unqualified persons (one non-panel).

Manchester.—The Insurance Committee on November 25 decided to continue for another year the present "Manchester system" of Insurance medical service (individual remuneration being calculated after a medical audit, according to work done). A ballot of the doctors gave a large majority in favour of its continuation, but the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee only recommended its adoption after Dr. McGowan "expressed, on behalf of the representatives of the local Medical Committee, a willingness to confer from time to time with the representatives of insured persons for their mutual benefit, and especially with a view of securing a substantial reduction in the present heavy claims against the funds of approved societies and the Drug Fund in this area." The Sub-Committee found that there is "a tendency for doctors to pay more than the necessary number of visits and write more than a necessary number of prescriptions." An amendment in favour of a whole-time medical service only found three supporters.—A letter has been issued by the Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee asking chemists on the panel for details of any evidence that they may have under the following heads:

(a) Overprescribing—*e.g.*, too frequent renewals of prescriptions for any persons week after week for a long period.
(b) Extravagant prescribing—*e.g.*, extravagant in quantities, value, or class of articles prescribed.

The prescriptions have to be sent in proof of each item. No chemist's name will be divulged, the information being for the use in London before the Insurance Commissioners.—About one hundred and fifty panel pharmacists attended the meeting at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on November 26, to hear the result of the prolonged negotiations between the Insurance Committee and the Pharmaceutical

Insurance Committee. The Chairman (Mr. F. W. Bates) and Mr. Harry Kemp (of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee) described at length the difficulties encountered and overcome, and held out brighter prospects for the coming year. Evidently a section of local panel chemists is not satisfied with the report, as a letter was issued on November 29 inviting "every pharmacist to attend a meeting of pharmacists on the Manchester panel, independent of the Manchester Pharmacists' Association," to be held at the Albion Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester, on Wednesday, December 3, at 3 P.M. This meeting of pharmacists, which was called by Mr. Alf. Hershberg, pharmacist, 77 Cheetham Hill Road, was attended by about eighty chemists. All the prominent members of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association and of the Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee, including the Chairman and Hon. Secretary, were present as panel chemists, but not in an official capacity. Mr. C. Brown, who occupied the chair, gave some very interesting figures as to averages and the ratio of profit of the Manchester chemists under the present system of medical benefit. Mr. Hershberg, who began the discussion, said his excuse for sending out the circular last Saturday was that as no other official meeting had been suggested before December 10, he had taken these steps to see whether they as chemists could not do something definite before the final date—December 10—for signing the agreements to continue what he considered a bad and unbusinesslike contract. He mentioned that the Salford chemists the previous night had evolved an excellent scheme to get out of the difficulty of the shortage in the Drug Fund. Under this the chemists' accounts would be paid in full, but the scheme apparently entails the reduction of the present Tariff prices and a minimum charge of 4d. This scheme, however, did not meet with the approval of the meeting, even after it was more fully explained by a Salford chemist, who said the arrangements had not been finally settled in Salford. A resolution, proposed by Mr. Hershberg, that the date for signing the contracts should be deferred, was defeated by a large majority, several amendments brought forward meeting the same fate. Mr. H. Kemp, in a telling speech, said that he was at a loss to understand why Mr. Hershberg had called this meeting, as he understood that at the meeting on November 26 a promise had been made to hold another meeting before December 10 to discuss the present situation. He said he was sure that the arrangements (of which they heard last Wednesday) were satisfactory to most of those present. Mr. F. W. Bates, Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Committee, said he failed to see how they could improve on what they had already done, and Mr. Mallinson (Hon. Secretary) related the various difficulties encountered and overcome. He said that the arrangements for the coming year would be much better for chemists. A vote of confidence in Messrs. Bates, Kemp, and Mallinson was proposed by Mr. Flint (Chorlton), seconded by Mr. Alf. Hershberg, and carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 5.15 P.M.—The list of nominations for election of the local Pharmaceutical Committee contains the names of twenty-one pharmacists and four unqualified persons. There are twelve places, of which two will be filled by "persons other than registered pharmacists."

Middlesex.—A conference of doctors and pharmacists was held at the offices of the Middlesex Insurance Committee on December 1, Mr. Kelland (Vice-Chairman, Insurance Committee) presiding. The revised Tariff, also embodying the recent alterations in list of appliances, was approved after some discussion. The chief additions were:

Minimum charge of one penny for any prescription.
All pills to be 4 grains, unless otherwise specified or prescribed.
Strengths of tablets to be inserted.
Aqua dest. to be used and charged for unless doctor orders aqua font.

Every effort was made to follow as closely as possible the Tariff recently accepted by the London Insurance Committee, in accordance with the idea expressed by all present of one universal Tariff. "Rept. mist." came in for much discussion, and it was finally agreed that the Insurance Committee should circularise the medical men on the panel, strongly urging the discontinuance of this practice on the ground of inconvenience to both chemist and insured person. If these letters did not have the desired effect, the Insurance Committee promised to take further action in the matter. The chemists' representatives were Messrs. Bailey, Humphrey, Skinner, and Wolff. The following sixteen pharmacists have been nominated for election to the County Local Pharmaceutical Committee: Messrs. Bailey, Bright, Clement, Coulter, Davy, Duncan (Boots, Ltd.), Humphrey, Peake, Rigid, Roberts, Sayers, Skinner, Strickland (drug companies), Webber, Webster (Parke's Drug Stores, Ltd.), and Wolff. At present there is no likelihood of a poll being taken.

Midlothian.—The County Insurance Committee has agreed that wherever doctors supply medicines, etc., to panel patients they should do so on the same terms as the chemists, and render an account.

Northampton.—The medical men and the Insurance Committee have adopted the revised Drug Tariff.

Northamptonshire. The following have been nominated for election on the county Pharmaceutical Committee: Messrs. J. Gant (Raunds), J. R. Moore (Desborough), W. Hitchman (Kettering), R. H. Robinson (Wellingborough), C. Smith (Rushden), H. Dean (Desborough), C. P. R. Chambers (Wellingborough), and J. H. Thursfield (Kettering). There being no other nominations, these will form the new Committee. Mr. Moore's resignation as chemists' representative on the Insurance Committee owing to his indifferent health has been reluctantly accepted, with thanks for his valuable services. Mr. J. Gant, J.P., is his successor. It is expected that the requests for a minimum fee of 2d. on prescriptions, and double dispensing-fees on Sundays and between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m., will probably be granted. Where payment was refused for any articles supplied during the first quarters, the Insurance Committee is prepared to consider applications for payment. Accounts for prescriptions dispensed by chemists during the first quarter are estimated to amount to an average of 3½d. per insured person not dispensed for by doctors. Prescriptions for the second quarter have now been checked, the errors being under 1 per cent. The Insurance Committee has been asked to pay more than 75 per cent. of the accounts as sent in.

Nottingham.—The new Pharmaceutical Committee has unanimously recommended chemists to sign the new agreements. This, however, contains no allusion to the revised Tariff, as some points have not yet been settled with the Medical Committee. The exceptionally mild season makes Insurance dispensing slack.

Radnorshire.—The revised Tariff has been adopted by the Insurance Committee, including a late fee of 6d. for prescriptions dispensed between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Sheffield.—The unqualified drug-vendors are endeavouring to get four seats on the Pharmaceutical Committee.—Mr. A. H. Culverhouse (Hon. Secretary of the Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society) has written to a local newspaper in response to a letter relating to "scores of complaints against chemists," stating that genuine complaints will meet with thorough consideration if forwarded to his address.—The Insurance Committee have taken new offices in Church Street. Mr. Hart, the Town Clerk and Acting Clerk to the Insurance Committee, will remain at the Town Hall, where the committee-meetings will still be held, but pharmacists will conduct all their business at the new offices. This will be a welcome change, as at times it has not been at all agreeable to have to discuss accounts, etc., before a staff of general clerks. In the new offices arrangements have been made to separate Mr. Siddall (the chief clerk), Mr. Lancaster (pharmacist), and Mr. Rogers (accountant) from the general staff.

Somerset.—At the last meeting of the Somerset Medical Committee, it was stated that the estimate in chemists' areas for drugs amounted to 1s. 7½d. per insured person, encroaching upon the floating sixpence to the extent of 1½d. Several cases of extravagant prescribing were reported, as well as instances in which quantities were not stated. One chemist, not knowing the purpose for which dressings were ordered, supplied 1 lb. of cotton-wool for a cut finger.

Southampton.—The Finance Committee of the Insurance Committee is to investigate an allegation by the Hon. Secretary of the local Medical Committee that the proper amount of drug prescribed had not been dispensed by a chemist.

Surrey.—The following thirteen pharmacists are candidates for election to the County Pharmaceutical Committee: F. S. Booth (Surbiton), W. Bowden (Wimbledon), W. V. Burland (Boots, Ltd., Guildford), J. B. Critchison (Boots, Ltd., Wimbledon), N. H. Dannatt (Parke's Drug Stores, Ltd., Richmond), W. J. Doo (Merton Park), W. H. Fowler (Redhill), F. Harvey (Surbiton), A. Higgs (Kingston-on-Thames), E. T. Neathercoat (Weybridge), J. Noble (Wallington), A. J. Pratt (Reigate), and F. Strawson (Dorking). There are twelve places. No representative of persons not entitled to dispense has been nominated.

West Bromwich.—Messrs. Edgson, Osborne, and Kemsey-Bourne, as a deputation of panel chemists, attended at the last meeting of the Medical Benefit Sub-Committee, when it was resolved to pay chemists 90 per cent. of their accounts each quarter and the balance at the end of the year, provided the funds hold out. There seems some possibility of settling the "Rept. mist." question, as the Committee is against it because of trouble in checking accounts. No contest for the Pharmaceutical Committee is necessary.

The Medical Benefit Sub-Committee having reported that they consider that the expense of checking chemists' prescriptions in full would be greater than the consequent gain to the Drug Fund, the Insurance Committee has acceded to the request to leave the Sub-Committee to decide when and what proportion of the prescriptions should be checked, at a cost not exceeding 8s. per 1,000 actually checked.

West Riding (Yorks). The members of the Insurance Committee on November 27 had before them a request from the West Riding Pharmacists' Association for at least two more pharmacists to be placed on the Committee, so that the 333 dispensing chemists on the panel might be more fairly represented. The Clerk replied that the representation could only be increased through the Commissioners, and not by the Committee alone. The new Regulations would, however, enable the Committee to place chemists on certain sub-committees.

Notes.

A "NATIONAL MEDICAL UNION" has been formed, federating local Associations of non-panel medical practitioners which have been formed in many places. The Presidents are Mr. G. A. Wright, F.R.C.S. (Manchester), and Professor Russell (Edinburgh University).

MR. SIDNEY WEBB. of the Insurance Act Fabian Research Department, is asking through newspapers for particulars from insured patients of prescribed drugs or appliances which have not been supplied free of charge, and appliances not included in the Commissioners' list (trusses, elastic bandages, spectacles, crutches, etc.) which have been required and refused.

NEW MEDICAL BENEFIT REGULATIONS.—Notice was gazetted on November 28 of the English and Welsh Insurance Commissioners' intention to make further regulations with respect to the administration of Medical Benefit. These relate only to the procedure to be followed for the first election, where no Association of medical practitioners has been formed, of two representatives of medical practitioners on each Insurance Committee.

THE INSURANCE ACT COMMITTEE of the British Medical Association decided on November 20 to recommend its Council to arrange for conferences to be held during the summer of each year between representatives of the British Medical Association and of the Pharmaceutical Society for the purpose of arriving at some agreement with regard to the Drug Tariff for the succeeding Insurance year, with the object that such agreement should be recommended by each parent body to the various local Medical, Panel, and Pharmaceutical Committees throughout the Kingdom.

BOTTLE-LENDING.—A chemist in South-East London sends us an 8-oz. bottle, which had contained the ingredients of an Insurance prescription, with four labels of three distinct chemists plastered one on top of the other. The result is that parts of the name and address of each chemist are visible, and the unsightly effect is made worse owing to the edges of the labels being ragged where portions have been torn off in partial attempts to remove. A few minutes' soaking while writing the label would obviate the slovenly appearance of the container, and the discredit it puts upon the dispensers.

TEMPORARY RESIDENTS.—The National Health Insurance Commission (England) state (I.C.L. 39) that, inasmuch as insured persons temporarily removing from Scotland will not be provided with a green voucher by the appropriate Scottish Committee, such persons will have to notify their removal immediately upon arrival to the Clerk to the Insurance Committee into whose area they have removed, in the same manner as insured persons removing for more than three months. If the removal be for three months or less, it will be necessary for the English Committee to issue a green voucher, marked "On account of the (Scottish) Insurance Committee," before the insured person can obtain medical benefit in England. The above arrangements, which are of a provisional character only, in no way affect the issue by English Committees of green vouchers to insured persons temporarily removing to Scotland.

CHINESE RHUBARB.—The exports from Chungking during 1912 amounted to 12,291 piculs (14,632 cwt.), as compared with 13,099 piculs (15,594 cwt.) in 1912. The average for the five years 1907-11 was 13,964 piculs, or 16,624 cwt., so that the 1912 figures show a decrease of 1,673 piculs, or 1,992 cwt., as compared with the five years' average.

CHINESE GALLS.—The exports from Chungking during 1912 were 15,992 piculs (19,038 cwt.), as compared with 3,952 piculs (4,705 cwt.) in 1911, being an increase of 12,040 piculs, or 14,333 cwt., in 1911. The average exports for the five years 1907-11 were 10,482 piculs, or 12,478 cwt., so that last year's exports were 5,510 piculs, or 6,560 cwt., above the average.

WINTER SESSION

of Meetings of Trade Associations.

Others are reported under "National Health Insurance" when the subjects pertain chiefly to that Section.

Cheltenham.—The members of the Cheltenham, Gloucester and District Pharmacists' Association, at a meeting on November 29 (Mr. Stroud in the chair), decided to send the following resolution to the Pharmaceutical Society: "That this Association views with great regret the action of the Council in making Latin optional in the Preliminary examination, and considers it a step towards lowering the standard of apprentices and the business generally, and therefore undesirable in view of modern requirements." Mr. H. B. Clark was elected to represent the Association on a committee to be formed *re* telephone administration in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Garrett gave a very interesting paper on the social unrest of the present time. Following the lead of the Grocers' Association, it was agreed to write Messrs. Cleaver, pointing out that it is undesirable to supply hotels with their goods direct instead of through the trade channels.

Edinburgh Assistants.—A meeting of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on November 26, Mr. Henry Stout, Ph.C. (President), in the chair. Mr. David Murray, taking the affirmative, opened a debate on the question *Should Membership of the Pharmaceutical Society be Compulsory?* He gave a sketch of the foundation of the Pharmaceutical Society, and argued as follows: The intention of the founders was the establishing, first of all, of a uniform system of education. Once you have educated a person, however, to a certain state of efficiency, you have got to protect him—that is, to see that no advantage is taken of his qualification by uneducated or unqualified persons. It is illogical that a Society should exist for protecting a class of persons while many of that class have nothing to do with the Society. Why should some be made to contribute to the protection of the rest? The powers granted to the Society for prosecuting in the illegal sale of poisons is indirectly protecting pharmacists. So long as the Society is carrying out this statutory power, it seems to have satisfied a large number of pharmacists who ought to be members. No pharmacist, he said, has the right to enjoy privileges which are obtained through the Society without contributing to its support. Mr. J. A. Forret, replying to these arguments, said he agreed with what Mr. Murray had said, with the one exception that he could not agree to compulsion as a means of securing the objects aimed at. He also deprecated the constant reference to the financial aspects of the question. He thought there were other considerations of more importance than mere finance. He agreed that all registered chemists should contribute to the Society, but it is impossible to secure hearty co-operative effort by an Act of Parliament. Mr. Murray had said that outsiders could only grumble, and that is quite true; but if these outsiders came inside they would be in a minority and would seek to thwart the work of the Council, and their membership would be a source, not of strength, but of weakness to the Society. After further discussion a vote was taken, when the question was decided in the affirmative by a small majority.

Liverpool.—A meeting of the Liverpool Chemists' Association was held at the Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, on November 26, Mr. H. Humphreys Jones, F.C.S., in the chair. There was a good attendance. The President called the attention of the meeting to the district meeting and smoking-concert to be held in Liverpool on December 10, when the Pharmaceutical Society will be represented by Messrs. Lord Gifford and Rowsell and Mr. W. J. Uglow Woolcock (the Secretary). The first matter discussed was the dropping of Latin as a compulsory subject in the *Preliminary Examination*. This Mr. Wallbridge considered a retrograde step. Mr. Prosper H. Marsden maintained that the difficulty in getting boys of suitable age to enter pharmacy is to a great extent due to the fact that Latin is not a subject studied in the secondary schools. He contended that Latin is important to the pharmacist, but he referred to the interesting fact that a medical qualification could be obtained without taking Latin. Mr. Moreton Parry emphasised the fact that Latin is recommended as an optional subject, and maintained that the Council has under the circumstances acted wisely. The next matter for discussion was *The Federation Question*, which the Pharmaceutical Council has under consideration. Mr. J. G. Wallbridge proposed that the Pharmaceutical Society in their scheme of organisation should federate the

Associations all through the country, and this was seconded by Mr. T. H. Swinton. Mr. G. V. C. Last moved an amendment that the Pharmaceutical Society should federate the Pharmaceutical Committees, which, he said, represent all panel chemists, and, further, that non-panel chemists would also be represented, whereas local Associations are not in any sense representative. Mr. John H. Robinson advocated leaving the matter in abeyance until the district meeting has been held, when he hoped the members of the Council would be able to elucidate matters and make it easier for them to arrive at a decision. Messrs. D. H. Evans, Kennedy, Hirst, H. H. Marsden, and the President took further part in the discussion, the result being the adoption of the resolution by a large majority, five only voting for the amendment.

London Assistants.—*Advertising Methods* was the subject of the evening at a meeting of the Chemists' Assistants' Association at the Bonnington Hotel, London, W.C., on November 27, when Mr. F. W. Crossley-Holland presided. The breezy address by F. A. Degen was entitled "Publicity and the Progressive Chemist." This dealt first of all with the type of man who cannot afford to advertise or considers advertising undignified, by stating that the businessman has a much better chance of getting customers if he invites them in; and advertising done in a dignified manner adds to first impressions, only too blatant publicity detracting. The retail chemist was characterised as showing great lack of business perspicuity in pushing other people's goods. Advertising at the present time is only just emerging from the days of charlatanism which had obscured it for years, and publicity is fast becoming a highly moral force, because if confidence is to be preserved the article or drug supplied must be of best quality. A rough idea was next given of the elements that go towards making a good advertisement. This must contain something surprising or even "shocking." An interesting story calls attention, and a convincing argument clinches the sale. The "shock" must be pleasant, and not ugly like the black mourning border, big ugly type, or unpleasant picture. There should be an original clever headline and an interesting illustration. In advertising pharmaceutical specialities humour is generally out of place, and jokes must be used very discreetly. In the drug-trade advertising must be of a sympathetic and common-sense type. Illustrations were then given of the fallacy of following the usual rut. One must have pictures for good advertising, but these must be in the spirit of the age and possess "action." Perfunctory arguments are of no use. These must ring with sincerity, as the public are less easy to fool each year. Great emphasis was laid upon the power of suggestion. Everybody will spend money if it could only be suggested that they need something. There are plenty of advertising journals, but the chemist does not usually want to learn how to advertise or show hats; he will find plenty of examples in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, and get useful advice from the helpful articles it publishes from time to time. The lecturer suggested that addresses on advertising should be given two or three times each term at schools of pharmacy as a part of the professional curriculum, as advertising is a phase of business which the student ought to know. A short description was also given of building-up a *Mail Order Business*, this being described as possibly the youngest and most interesting phase of advertising. The question of the free sample is a problem which has often got to be worked out by experience. It is usually found to be better to ask the reader to send a stamp or two to cover cost of postage. This seems to be appreciated more than samples sent without being asked for. Advertising literature should contain natural talk; letters must not be "preachy preachy" or frighfully humble. Form letters are not always advisable; still we must have these, as they can be made in the follow-up to fit individual cases; that is, form letters to be of any real force must be used with intelligence. Mention was made of the psychology of advertising and the faith that the advertiser must have in the value of the article. The least suspicion to the public that it is not getting value is fatal.—The points raised in the discussion related to the use of trade-names in advertising, the selection of media, and the dishonesty of using any demand created by another maker's advertisement as a stepping-stone for one's own sale. The Chairman especially objected to the latter, pointing out that it is perilously near substitution. He also said that the follow-up letter is largely overdone, and must have a real grip to be of any use. The lecturer disclaimed advising substitution in any form, and said it might be equally the proprietor's personality and the maker's advertisement which brought the customer to the shop, and he had a right to use his own premises in business competition. The success of advertising was bound up with cumulative

effect, and money used on advertising was not spent, but invested. The lecture was immensely enjoyed by the fifty or more assistants present, the piquant advertising stories given from time to time causing much merriment.—The autographed copy of Remington's "Practice of Pharmacy," presented to the Association by Professor Remington himself, is to be competed for under the following conditions:

The competitor is to write an essay on the present session's work of the C.A.A., and incorporate suggestions for next session's work; and an essay on one of the following commercial subjects:

- (a) Discuss the essentials of good counter salesmanship.
- (b) How can the dispensing department best be advertised?
- (c) Show how the wholesaler can improve business relations with the retailer.

Only members of the Association are eligible as competitors, and essays not exceeding 1,000 words should reach the Hon. Literary Secretary, Mr. W. Roberts, 54 Claverton Street, S.W., not later than February 28, 1914. Envelopes containing the essays should be marked "Remington Prize" and with the *nom de plume* of the competitor, the latter's name and address being enclosed in a separate sealed envelope endorsed with the *nom de plume*. The essays will be printed in the Association's "Proceedings," and the prize will be awarded at the annual dinner on April 2, 1914.

Nottingham.—A social meeting of the Nottingham and Notts Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Victoria Station Hotel on December 4. The company was much interested in a discussion, introduced by Mr. F. Ross Sergeant, on the question, *Is the Assistant of the Present Day Equal to the one of Twenty Years Ago?* It was generally agreed that he is not so well up in the technical side of the business, but on other points the opinions expressed were divided.

Plymouth.—The annual meeting of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Association of Pharmacists was held at 7 Whimple Street, Plymouth, on November 27. The President (Mr. A. J. Ancliffe) presided over a good attendance. The Secretary's report was adopted and the financial statement received, the balance in hand being over 7*l*. The meeting decided to recommend as Divisional Secretaries Mr. F. A. Spear (Plymouth) and Mr. F. W. Broom (Devonport and Stonehouse). Miss D. Hammett and Mr. Crispin were elected members of the Junior Section. The scrutineers (Messrs. J. E. Fauke and R. Bull) appointed to count the votes reported the following to be the Executive Committee for the ensuing year: Messrs. A. J. Ancliffe, F. J. Barge, F. W. Broom, F. A. Goodwin, J. U. Jones, E. J. Knight, F. Maitland, W. M. Martin, S. A. Perkins, C. J. Park, R. F. Roper, B. Shelton, F. A. Spear, J. D. Turney, and E. G. Turney. This committee will elect President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Mr. Maitland considered the time had come when all registered chemists should be invited to join the Association. He proposed that printed invitations be sent out. It was decided to bring the matter before the new Executive Committee. Votes of thanks were given to Mr. A. J. Ancliffe for the manner in which he had carried out his duties as President, and to the Treasurer and Secretary.

Ucal.—A well-attended meeting of the London and suburban members of the United Chemists' Association, Ltd., including the two London directors (Mr. F. Cherry and Mr. G. W. Evans), was held on November 27 at Broadway Hall, Hammersmith, at which was inaugurated the Ucal Lodge of Pharmacy. This Lodge is designed to bring the members of this Association into closer touch with each other and to promote social and business interests. Meetings will be held for the discussion of advertising methods, salesmanship, pharmacy management, and the joint advertising of goods.

The officers were elected as follows: President, Mr. C. W. Brumwell, 72 Euston Square, London, N.W.; Vice-President, Mr. J. Hearle, Islington; Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Mathews, Kentish Town; Secretaries, Mr. G. W. Evans, Hammersmith, and Mr. Dan Davies, Brixton; Auditors, Mr. Palmer, Aylesbury, and Mr. Bennett, Brondesbury; Committee, Messrs. Wiggin, Willcocks, Payne, Miller, Mills, Melbourne, and Hall.



Mr. C. W. BRUMWELL, PH.C. The officers were elected as follows:

President, Mr. C. W. Brumwell, 72 Euston Square, London, N.W.; Vice-President, Mr. J. Hearle, Islington; Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Mathews, Kentish Town; Secretaries, Mr. G. W. Evans, Hammersmith, and Mr. Dan Davies, Brixton; Auditors, Mr. Palmer, Aylesbury, and Mr. Bennett, Brondesbury; Committee, Messrs. Wiggin, Willcocks, Payne, Miller, Mills, Melbourne, and Hall.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., December 4.

BUSINESS conditions in drugs and chemicals remain much as previously reported, and a gradual shrinkage is looked for as the month progresses. The price-fluctuations are mostly unimportant this week. Castor oil has risen somewhat sharply; higher prices are also asked for euonymus-bark and podophyllum-root, the resin following. West Indian tamarinds are also held for higher rates. Copiba and tolu are firmer for genuine, but Peru balsam is easier. Opium is the turn easier, the previous high quotations not being supported by business. Morphine and codeine are firm at last week's recovery, and makers are busy. Menthol on spot is 3*d.* per lb. cheaper, but arrival prices are much lower, as also are those for Japan mint oil. Vanilla at auction was 6*s.* 1*d.* cheaper. Quinine is nominal; saffron remains very firm; and taraxacum is still scarce. Thymol is firmer, and cream of tartar easier. In outside articles, glucose, shellac, and turpentine have declined. The principal changes are as under :

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Castor oil, Eng. Belgian	Balsam tolu Copiba Thymol	Anise oil (star) (c.i.f.) Balsam peru Cassia oil (c.i.f.)	Cocoa-butter Copper sulphate Glucose Lemon oil (c.i.f.)
Euonymus-bark	Wax, Japanese (c.i.f.)	Cream of tartar	Menthol Mint oil, Jap. (c.i.f.)
Orange oil		Opium	Shellac Star-ch-powder Vanilla
Podophyllum-resin			
Tamarinds (W.I.)			

Cablegram.

NEW YORK, December 3.—Business in drugs remains dull. Opium has advanced 25*c.* to \$5.85 per lb. for druggists' by single cases, and the opium alkaloids follow. Peppermint oil in tins is steady at \$3.55 per lb. Mexican sarsaparilla is scarce at 24*c.* per lb. Podophyllum-root is firm at 8*½**c.*, and senega is steady at 6*¾**c.* Both cascara sagrada and copaiba balsam are unaltered.

London Markets.

ALMONDS.—Sales of fine bold Jordan have been made at auction at 8*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., and for Persian 6*l.* 15*s.* has been paid. Chinese apricot-kernels have arrived in fair quantity of late, this source helping somewhat make up the deficiency in other countries.

BALSAM TOLU.—To arrive, importers quote 2*s.* 6*d.* c.i.f., being firmer; on the spot, values are from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 9*d.* as to quality.

BERGAMOT OIL.—A Catania advice dated November 28 reports a quiet market for prompt, and prices are a trifle lower. Forward is also neglected, and prices have receded; no great decline, however, appears likely. Another advice intimates that pressings are beginning, and business for early parcels to be delivered first half of next month is already spoken of. On the spot (London) 24*s.* 6*d.* is quoted for 36 to 37 per cent. esters, and new crop for January shipment 21*s.* 6*d.* c.i.f.

BUCHU.—The *Walmer Castle* has brought 33 bales.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—For December and January-February shipment business has been done at 1s. 4½d. per lb. c.i.f. for 2½-lb. slabs, 1s. 5d. c.i.f. for 1-oz. tablets and 1s. 5½d. c.i.f. for ¼-oz. Slabs have also sold for April-May shipment at 1s. 4½d. c.i.f.

CANTHARIDES.—As previously indicated the crop of Russian flies has been extremely small, and orders to buy have only been partially filled. New natural in 1-cwt. bags are quoted at 7s. 3d. and old at 6s. 8d. per lb.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Arrivals of new crop will take place in a week or so. The spot value is 38s. to 40s. per cwt., according to age.

CASSIA OIL remains very dull, the few sales including December-January shipment at 2s. 10½d. per lb. c.i.f. for 80 to 85 per cent. c.a.; 75 to 80 per cent. is quoted 2s. 9½d., and 70 to 75 per cent. 2s. 8d. per lb., c.i.f. terms. Forty cases have arrived via Marseilles.

CASTOR OIL.—English make has advanced 10s. per ton, to 26l. 15s. for first pressings for prompt delivery, and for all positions over 1914 27l. is quoted, delivered free on wharf London. Pharmaceutical quality is 50s. per ton over the price of firsts, and oil in tins and cases 50s. per ton over the price in barrels. Belgian is 15s. per ton higher, at 26l. for first pressing for prompt and forward delivery f.o.b. Antwerp.

CASTORUM.—The quantity to be offered by the Hudson's Bay Co. on Wednesday, December 10, has now been reduced to 1,793 lb., or 509 lb. less than last year; and of Oregon castorum 578 lb. will be offered, or 697 lb. less.

CHAMOMILES.—The recent sharp decline on the lower grades is said to be due to the mild open weather in Belgium having favoured the growth, this enabling picking of the crop to be extended for six weeks beyond the normal period—a fact hitherto unheard of. The value of fair slightly brown seconds is about 44s., and fair white about 57s. 6d. per cwt., ex wharf.

CINCHONA.—Further particulars regarding the manufacturing bark to be tendered for at Amsterdam on Wednesday, December 10, show that the 11,011 packages weigh 978,579 kilos., and contain the equivalent of 56,374 kilos. quinine sulphate. The average percentage of q.s. in the bark is 5.76, as compared with 6.13 per cent. in November. On the following day an auction of pharmaceutical bark will be held, this consisting of 1,677 bales, 184 cases Java, and 10 bales Ceylon, the total weight being 142,406 kilos., with a quinine-content of 4,286 kilos. The exports from Java to Europe during November amounted to 2,071,000 A. lb., against 1,598,000 A. lb. last year, 1,588,000 A. lb. in 1911, and 1,590,000 A. lb. in 1910. The shipments during the eleven months have been 17,578,000 A. lb., against 15,004,000 A. lb. in 1912, 15,427,000 A. lb. in 1911, and 16,684,000 A. lb. in 1910.

COCA-LEAVES.—Further particulars of the auction to be held at Amsterdam on December 11 show that the 1,039 packages weigh 55,437 kilos., with a total alkaloidal content of 886 kilos. The average percentage is 1.60. The exports from Java to Europe during November amounted to 2,130 packages, against 4,456 packages in 1912.

COCOA-BUTTER.—At the Dutch auction, 96 tons Van Houten's A quality sold at 86.33 cents, against 90.99c. last sale, and 125 tons B quality at 76.71c.; 78 tons Blooker sold at 76.38c.

CODEINE is in fair demand, makers quoting the pure crystals at 10s. 10d. per oz. in contract quantities.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on December 1 that the quotation of 85s. 6d. per barrel c.i.f. is maintained, but only a trifling business has been done.

COPAIBA is firmer, the quotation for Maracaibo B.P. being 2s. 1½d. per lb., and for unfiltered Maranhão 2s. 2d. is quoted. Hamburg qualities are obtainable at several pence below these figures.

COPPER SULPHATE is weak and lower, with the usual Liverpool brands offering at from 22l. 5s. to 22l. 7s. 6d. per ton.

CREAM OF TARTAR is about 1s. cheaper at 94s. for 98 per cent. and 92s. for 95 per cent.

ERGOT.—After the recent good business in Russian as a result of lower level of prices for forward shipment, offers are now more difficult to obtain; to arrive this month or early January 2s. 1d. is quoted.

EUONYMUS-BARK is dearer, the c.i.f. price having been advanced to 1s. 10d.; there is practically nothing on the spot at the moment.

EUPHORBIUM, after many months of scarcity, is in rather better supply, and good quality now afloat in limited quantity is offered at about 45s. per cwt. c.i.f. London.

GALLS.—Steady, with Persian blue selling on the spot at 50s. per cwt.

GLUCOSE is lower, the usual brands offering at 12s. 1½d. per cwt., ex works London.

GUM ACACIA.—Sudan sorts are quiet, with small sales of fair half hard at from 32s. 6d. to 33s. on spot; to arrive this description is still quoted from Khartoum at 31s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f. East Indian also continues dull, No. 1 Ghatti offering at 29s., and No. 2 at 19s. per cwt. Senegal gum could probably be bought at 31s. 6d. per cwt., f.o.b. Bordeaux, for fair quality Bas de Fleuve.

HYDRASTINE.—Both the alkaloid and salts of hydrochloride and sulphate have been advanced to 90s. per oz. net. *Hydrastin* (resinoid) is also higher at 100s. per oz. net.

LEMON OIL.—Rather lower prices are quoted for forward shipment of new crop, a fair quantity having been booked at 9s. 8d. per lb. c.i.f. for January and onwards; in other directions, from 9s. 10d. to 10s. 9d. c.i.f. is quoted, according to shipper. The spot value is from 12s. 6d. to 13s. for good brands, with little finest oil available.

A Catania adviee dated November 28 reports that the demand for prompt oil has continued small, and with new oil being pressed and offered more freely prices have further declined. Analyses of new oil show good citral-contents with an excellent aroma; the quality this year therefore promises to be good. As regards forward business, export demand has been somewhat better. Prices have weakened slightly, but are now stationary in a quiet market. Producers, however, show a tendency to resist any further decline.

A Sicilian adviee dated November 29 states that the pressing season is gradually beginning in all districts, although the crop is still backward on account of abnormal weather conditions. Signs of growing activity appear in the form of small transactions for early pressing to be delivered within a very short period, and occasional buyers have been found for same at full parity of 10s. 6d. per lb. New crop is entirely inactive for forward shipment, both buyers and sellers waiting further developments; prices are consequently nominal at about 9s. 10d. e.i.f.

MENTHOL.—As notified in our last, the price after the auction was 10s. 6d. for Kobayashi on spot, at which there has been a more general demand for case lots, and since 10s. 3d. has been paid. To arrive sellers of Kobayashi and (or) Suzuki quote 12s. c.i.f. for January-February or January-March shipment combined with oil; menthol alone at 8s. 3d. c.i.f.; also Japan mint oil at 3s. 9d. c.i.f. for December-January shipment, which has been paid to-day. At the lower range of prices a good business has been done.

MORPHINE.—The makers have now fixed their price for hydrochloride powder at 8s. per oz., without engagement. They are, however, unable to give delivery before February, having sufficient business to keep them fully employed. The quantities offered from second-hands do not influence the market, being a negligible quantity.

MUSK is unaltered, the value of fine blue skin Pile I. Tonquin pod being 72s. per oz., and old-fashioned 60s. per oz. The price of Russian Cabardine is 18s. per oz.

OPIUM.—With the approach of the end of the year it is difficult to interest buyers in the opium market, and although the pretensions of holders in Turkey still indicate a strong tone, with 14s. 3d. c.i.f. asked for 11 per cent., there are no buyers at this figure, and we understand that a bid of 6d. or 9d. less might lead to business. The spot value of Turkey druggists' is 15s. 3d., which has

been paid. In Persian, business has been done at easier rates, between 18s. 6d. and 19s. 6d. for middling test.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on November 21, again reporting a very active market, with sales of 75 cases at from 11s. 6d. to 14s., as to quality. The position has strengthened owing to many buyers and to the tenacity of holders. Mixed parcels of talequale, guaranteed 11 per cent. morphine, are difficult to combine under 12s. 3d. per lb., and 12s. would be the lowest possible a shipper would accept to book contracts. Some rain has fallen in the Interior during the week, but this has had no effect on holders in inducing them to make concessions, they firmly maintaining last week's figures, with a slight advance in some cases where better quality was asked. The general impression is that we shall advance again to the 13s. basis for 11 per cent. if the present active demand continues much longer. The arrivals in Smyrna are 3,770 cases, against 1,949 cases at same date last year.

A Constantinople correspondent writes on November 29 that the sales of the week amount to 46 cases druggists' at from ptrs. 185 to 200, 89 cases "softs" at from ptrs. 201 to 230, and 29 cases Malatia at from ptrs. 225 to 230. Contrary to our forecast of last week, a continuous and considerable advance has taken place during the week. One does not quite know how to account for this unexpected change, as the conditions for the next crop up to the present have been good. Our market has followed the same rising tendency as in Smyrna, which has been partly influenced by the demand from London. The market closes quiet, the price for 11 per cent. B.P. being 13s. 9d. c.i.f. The arrivals in Constantinople amount to 2,905 cases, against 2,114 cases, and consist of 1,503 cases druggists' (1,123), 1,162 cases "softs" (691), and 240 cases Malatia (300). The stock is 1,510 cases, against 1,024 cases, and consists of 741 cases druggists' (615), 623 cases "softs" (303), and 146 cases Malatia (106). The figures in parentheses represent those at the corresponding period of 1912.

ORANGE OIL.—A Catania advice dated November 28 reports that prices have advanced owing to speculative purchases on the part of producers, who, having last summer sold futures at higher prices than those now ruling, are covering in order to realise their profits; and, owing to purchases by local speculators who made money last winter in essences, sellers are holding aloof at present; market is firm, but export demand is quiet; a decline seems unlikely at the moment. Sellers of *bitter* orange are scarce as yet, and market is stationary, but firm. A Sicilian advice, dated November 29, reports that the delivery of local forward contracts for November has given opportunity to sellers to squeeze those people who had sold in blank and had not covered in good time. The market has consequently been very firm, and prices have further advanced. The movement is so far entirely local, as consumers abroad are looking on and taking no interest. The price is now at a level at which a good many forward contracts were made in September last. For shipment, 11s. to 11s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. is quoted.

ORANGE-PEEL.—English is obtainable at 1s. 3d. per lb., at which price there is a regular demand.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—A New York cable message says that "although the market is dull and inactive, higher prices are looked forward to in the near future." Most sellers of best brands quote 15s. to 15s. 6d. net, and H.G.H. at from 17s. 6d. to 17s. 9d., London terms, according to quantity and seller. Japan mint oil has been sold at 4s. 6d. spot for Kobayashi, and for January-March shipment 4s. to 3s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 3s. 9d. c.i.f. has been paid, being cheaper; at the close sellers of January-March quote 3s. 9d. c.i.f.

PODOPHYLLUM-ROOT is dearer, holders now asking 47s. 6d. per cwt. on spot, with the prospect of 50s. being reached. *Podophyllin-resin* is about 2s. 6d. dearer, at 12s. net.

QUICKSILVER is unaltered at 7s. 10s. from first-hands and very steady at 7s. 2s. from second-hands, with sales thereat.

SAFFRON remains very firm, but unaltered at from 42s. to 44s. per lb. net, according to quality.

SANDALWOOD OIL.—The fifth auction of the series of ten has now been held, and prices have been fully maintained—in fact, they were slightly in excess of those paid at the previous auction: the sales will finish about the middle of December. Meanwhile first-hand sellers of

English oil drawn from E.I. wood quote from 21s. to 23s. per lb.

SHELLAC is lower, with fair TN Orange quoted 82s. to 83s., and free AC Garnet 85s. For arrival TN Orange, December-January shipment, is quoted sellers at 82s., and AC Garnet at 82s. c.i.f. Futures are lower, the sales including December at 85s. to 80s., March 88s. to 84s., and May 90s. to 86s.

SPICES.—At auction, 650 packages Cochin and Calicut Ginger offered, of which 125 sold at cheaper rates without reserve, including wormy bold selected cut, 62s. to 65s., and small cut 35s.; of 600 bags, 113 sold without reserve, including rough wormy Formosa, 16s. to 16s. 6d.; washed rough Cochin was bought in at 25s. to 28s., and bold brown Calicut rough at 29s. No Zanzibar Cloves offered; privately sellers of fair ask 6d. for old crop, and 6d. for new on spot; arrival market is easier, the sales including near at hand at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. c.i.f., and sellers of November-January at 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ d.; sellers of June-August quote 6 $\frac{5}{6}$ d. The large supply of 467 packages W.I. Nutmegs offered, and practically all sold at steady rates for sound, and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. cheaper for defective and wormy. West Indian Mace was also in good supply, 133 packages selling at steady rates, up to 2s. 6d. and 2s. 7d. being paid for fine bold. *Chillies* were quiet, 23 bales Zanzibar selling at 43s. 6d., being cheaper. Of Pepper at auction, 93 bags Lampong were bought in at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for fair, and 80 bags Tellicherry sold at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for fair; 81 bags Ceylon were bought in at 5 $\frac{5}{6}$ d. for fine, a few lots selling at 5d. Privately spot demand is slow, with sellers of fair Singapore at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and sales of January-March at 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. c.i.f. d.w. White pepper is also quiet, fair Singapore offering at 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., and fair Muntok at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; to arrive, Singapore for January-March shipment has been sold at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and Muntok at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. c.i.f.

The spice sales next year will be held fortnightly, instead of weekly, the first taking place on January 13, 1914.

STARCH-POWDER is 3d. per cwt. cheaper, powder offering at 10s. 6d. and pearl at 10s. 3d. ex wharf.

TAMARINDS.—With smaller supplies of West Indian available, 17s. 6d. per cwt. is asked for Barbados in bond and 16s. to 16s. 6d. for other varieties of West Indian. Black Calcutta still remain dear at about 15s. 3d. c.i.f. and 15s. on spot.

TARAXACUM.—English is scarce, several of the usual sources of supply being unable to offer, owing, it is stated, to wet weather having interfered with digging. The nominal price of English is about 44s. to 45s.

THYMOL shows signs of advancing, seed being scarce; 6s. per lb. is quoted.

TURPENTINE is lower by 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per cwt., American closing at 31s. 9d. on spot, and January-April 32s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., the latter position being firmer at the close.

VANILLA.—At auction on Friday 275 tins were offered, of which the bulk sold at a reduction of from 6d. to 1s. per lb., the following prices being paid: *Seychelles* (234 tins offered and 165 sold), good firsts, 7 to 8 in., 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d.; 6 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., 11s. 6d. to 12s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 in., 10s. to 11s.; fair, partly crystallised, 8 to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., 13s.; seconds, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 in., 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.; fair split, 10s. 6d. to 11s.; brown and split, 9s. to 10s.; and mouldy, etc., 6s. to 7s. 6d. Of *Mauritius* 14 tins offered and five sold, fair to good firsts, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., 11s.; *Java*, six tins sold, foxy, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 in., at 10s. 6d. to 11s.

WAX, BEES'.—The sales in Liverpool include 110 packages Gambia at 7l. 17s. 6d. per cwt.

WAX, VEGETABLE.—Sales of *Carnauba* have been made for delivery at from 135s. to 133s. per cwt. From Hamburg the following prices are quoted without engagement: Choice flor, 240s. to 245s.; yellow to good yellow, 190s. to 210s.; medium yellow, 175s.; fatty grey, 135s. to 137s.; and current grey, 146s. to 147s. per cwt. e.i.f. net, U.K. ports. *Japanese Vegetable* is quoted on the spot (London) at 49s. 6d., and for arrival sellers ask the higher price of 47s. 6d. c.i.f.

DANISH LECITHIN.—A company has been formed in the city of Kolding, Denmark, to manufacture lecithin from the brains of hogs. The Danish hog-abattoirs are expected to yield about 800 lb. per day.

Manchester Chemical Market.

December 2.

The general tone in the market for heavy chemicals is exceedingly dull, a great deal of this no doubt being due to the quiet feeling in the cotton-trade of Lancashire. Quotations for 58-per-cent. ammonia alkali are from 2l. 17s. 6d. to 3l. per ton, in bags f.o.r. Soda crystals are quoted from 42s. 6d. to 45s.; caustic soda, 70 per cent., 9l. 7s. 6d. per ton. Bleaching-powder is variable, and ranges from 5l. 5s. to 5l. 7s. 6d. per ton. Caustic potash, 88 per cent., 20/- 15s.; carbonate of potash, 14/- 15s. per ton; salt-cake about 42s. 6d. per ton. Sulphate of copper continues to decline in consonance with the raw metal. Ordinary quotations are from 22/- 17s. 6d. to 23/- 2s. 6d. per ton, delivered Manchester. Brown acetate of lime is quoted 7/- 5s. per ton, and grey 10/- 10s. Calcium chloride quiet. White powdered arsenic seems to have touched bottom, and there are signs of recovery. In coal-tar products pitch is still held for full rates by makers, but it is doubtful whether the present level will be maintained. Benzols quiet, but scarce. For petrol purposes full rates are asked, say 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per gal. Carbolic acid on spot shows little change. It is stated that crystals are being sold for delivery over the next twelve months at very low prices. Wood naphthas are steady at 2s. 5d. for white colourless solvent and 2s. 6d. per gal. for miscible.

Sicilian Citrate of Lime.

The British Vice-Consul at Messina has furnished to the "Board of Trade Journal" the following particulars of exports of citrate of lime by the Camera Agrumaria during each of the four months June to September 1913:

To	June	July	August	September	Total
	Kilos.	Kilos.	Kilos.	Kilos.	Kilos.
United Kingdom	61,244	60,118	65,529	—	186,891
United States ..	2,967	146,414	59,9 6	—	2 9,317
France	70,253	34,876	67,036	43,241	215,566
Austria	—	50,288	—	10,4.6	61,84
Germany ..	2,872	34,151	—	34,827	93,830
Total	159,336	325,887	192,501	88,484	766,208

Carnauba Wax.

In the course of a circular letter issued by a Hamburg firm on carnauba wax it is stated that during the past two months the faint hopes in "bull" circles of an improvement in price have now been finally dispersed. Prices for fatty grey have declined considerably, as it was thought that at the low level a revival in business would take place. Round quantities were, in fact, sold to the U.S.A., but among German consumers confidence in the market has long been lost. The Brazilians have greatly reduced their prices for new crop, and even supposing the supply should not be considerable, it suffices to cover any delivery sales which may be made. Buyers are so reserved that offers for lots for shipment meet with practically no interest. This is largely because there is a stock of at least 6,500 bags lying unsold in Hamburg, mostly belonging to Brazilian firms, and it is clear that they can only be realised when holders make a considerable reduction in values. The state of affairs in Brazil is also very unfavourable, the low prices of rubber and the fall in coffee having occasioned great losses. Formerly Cearan labourers went after rubber, but times have changed, and there are now better wages to be earned gathering carnauba wax in their own State. This means a good crop in prospect, as labour is plentiful. Strange as it may appear, it is remarkable why carnauba wax has for many years been a popular speculative article. Stranger is it that speculators are accustomed to buy at the beginning of the harvest, thus fixing the price for the whole of the later crop. This year the chief speculators are still engaged with the old crop, and may wish to realise before beginning with the new. A stop may, of course, be put to the downward movement should speculators operate freely at the beginning, but the business conditions, which this year have been so persistently unfavourable, do not warrant this. The arrivals in Hamburg during October amounted to about 714 bags, which brings the total for the ten months to 21,172 bags, against 22,494 in 1912, 18,821 in 1911, and 21,555 bags in 1910, these figures being approximate. Up to the end of October the arrivals in Liverpool were unusually large, amounting to almost 10,000 bags, and as New York bought largely this year direct from Brazil, the report circulated in interested circles some months ago that the harvest was small this time has been thoroughly disproved; in fact, 1913, it is believed, will show the largest shipments on record.

General Medical Council.

THE Winter Session of the Council was completed on Saturday, November 29, at noon. Mr. Tomes, the Treasurer, presided on each day. Our report in the *C. & D.*, November 29, covered the first two days of the meeting, and we now deal with the rest.

PENAL BUSINESS.

Mr. Harry Roberts, L.S.A., 63 Harford Street, Stepney, was charged with infamous conduct in a professional respect at the instance of the Stepney Borough Council, who alleged that under the Public Health Regulations he had given four notifications of tuberculosis that were "untrue, misleading, or improper." Mr. Hart, who represented the borough, stated that one child had been notified who had never even been seen, another had never been examined; one of the two adults had been given, under the Insurance Act, a certificate of febrile catarrh and at the same time, for another benefit society, a certificate of muscular rheumatism; while in the fourth case, notified as tuberculosis, Mr. Roberts had given pneumonia as the cause of death in the death certificate. Mr. Hart also urged that the excessive number of notifications of tuberculosis given led to the expenditure of public money, and, moreover, tended to irritate the class whose co-operation in the cause of public health is difficult to get at any time. Dr. Roberts had taken a high hand, and, while admitting the facts, had said to the medical officer, "If you dare to criticise me I will not perform my duty under the Act at all, and shall decline to notify." Dr. Thomas, M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health for Stepney, and Mr. Evans, Chairman of the Public Health Committee, gave evidence in support of this statement. Mr. Roberts conducted his own case with the greatest spirit; the Council have seldom had before them one better able to hold his own. He admitted carelessness and expressed regret for the mistake in the first case, and that he had been unwise in accepting the verdict of the hospital which the child attended, and the mother's diagnosis, in the second; but in the other instances he maintained that the diseases for which he gave certificates were quite compatible with consumption. After consideration for some three-quarters of an hour the Acting-President announced that the Council did not see fit to erase Mr. Roberts's name from the Register.

Leniency was not, the Council considered, called for in the case of Francis Thomas Roche, L.R.C.P. & S.E., L.F.P.S.G., Kingston-on-Thames, summoned before them on the charge that he had abused his position as a medical man by committing adultery with a Mrs. Stuart, whom and whose husband he had been attending professionally, which adultery had been proved in the Divorce Court last March. The facts were brought before the Council by the officials of the High Court. Dr. Roche was represented by his solicitor, Mr. Hope. The Council hoped to conclude the session on Friday, and to that end they agreed to sit till 6.30 on Thursday so as to finish the case, but the examination for the defence was so protracted that the matter did not finish until Friday, when on the stroke of 6 the Council went into camera, and coming to a unanimous decision after a very few minutes, the Acting-President announced that the name of Thomas Francis Roche would be erased from the Medical Register.

The report of the Examination Committee on a communication furnished by

THE APOTHECARIES' HALL OF IRELAND, which opened the business on Friday, gave rise to a somewhat heated debate. The old grievances of the Hall, so gallantly led forth session after session with wrathful indignation by Dr. Adye-Curran, that the Hall is persistently worried by inspections and reports, have been embodied in a lengthy missive to the Council. The Examination Committee, to whom the matter was referred, replied at equal length, justifying and confirming the actions of the Council, and their recommendation that their report be sent to the Privy Council was adopted.

THE PHARMACOPEIA COMMITTEE.

The following report of this Committee, brought up by Dr. Norman Moore, seconded by Dr. Barrs, was received and entered:

From May 26, 1913, to November 18, 1913, the number of copies of the British Pharmacopœia (1898) sold by the publishers was 569. The total number of copies sold in the year beginning November 23, 1912, was 973. Up to the present time 45,598 copies of the Pharmacopœia, and 4,522 copies of the Indian and Colonial Addendum have been sold. Two further sections of the text of the new Pharmacopœia have been prepared by the editors, and have been submitted to the Committee and to the several committees of reference. All the sections so prepared have been sent to press, and are at present in type, undergoing revision. It is hoped that the Appendix and the concluding parts of the draft will be ready for consideration early in the new year.

NEW QUALIFICATIONS.

The report of the Public Health Committee recommending the Council to authorise the registration of the M.H. degree of the University of Liverpool as a qualification in public health was adopted, and, further, that the committee consult the legal adviser on the question of so amending the rules for diplomas in public health and on the general bearing of such amendments. The report of the Students' Registration Committee raised a protest from Sir John Moore that the Conjoint Board of Ireland viewed with very great concern the way in which students' certificates were ante-dated; it would not be allowed by his Board. This touched the fringe of an old controversy. Dr. Norman Moore declared that the Students' Registration Committee is the tribunal to which the Council referred doubtful cases, and if all committees were as conscientious and upright as is this one there would be no cause for anxiety. The report was adopted.

MORE PENAL CASES.

The Council met on Saturday morning at 11, when there were still two penal cases to be disposed of. The name of John Edward Sang, L.R.C.P. & S.E., L.F.P.S.G., 330 New Cross Road, London, S.E., was removed from the Medical Register because at the Central Criminal Court last September he was convicted of feloniously and unlawfully using certain means unknown with intent thereby to procure miscarriage, and was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Ralph Raby, M.R.C.S. & L.R.C.P., had been removed from membership of the former College and had had his licence withdrawn by the latter in the course of the present year consequent upon the issue of objectionable advertisements, and not on the ground of his having adopted any theory of medicine or surgery. The Executive Committee therefore recommended that, in pursuance of the Standing Order XVI., 2, the name of Mr. Raby be struck off the Register. The case was peculiar; a similar one had occurred once only, thirty years ago, and the Standing Order was then inserted to meet the contingency. The advertisements had appeared in an Australian paper, and they had been sent anonymously to the Registrar. The notice of inquiry sent from the Council had been returned, and the Colleges had also been unable to obtain any trace of Mr. Raby. The somewhat Gilbertian situation arose—if a man is registered by reason of his qualifications, what becomes of him on the Register if those qualifications are withdrawn? The Council got tied into a knot over the question, and had to retire into camera to disentangle themselves. Eventually the Acting-President announced the motion carried that Ralph Raby, having been deprived of all the qualifications by virtue of which he was registered, and the Council being satisfied that they had been taken away by reason of the issue of objectionable advertisements and not on the ground that he had adopted any theory of medicine or surgery, the Registrar be directed to erase the name of Ralph Raby from the Medical Register.

The Council then went into camera over the report of the National Health Insurance Committee, and the public business ended at noon.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Sale of Cocaine.

SIR,—I for one am very glad this matter has been commented upon in the *C. & D.* Personally, I think a chemist has no excuse whatever for supplying cocaine in any shape or form for internal use, unless ordered recently by a doctor. If he does, he is not fit to be a chemist.

Yours faithfully,
CHEMIST. (38/49.)

SIR,—The sale of cocaine appears to be spreading in this country, and no doubt this is due to what may without offence be called the illegitimate use of the drug. At present this country, I assume for the sake of argument, is fairly free from the vice of the cocaine habit. Is it always going to be free? I think Pope's words are peculiarly applicable here :

"Vice is a monster so frightful mien,
As, to be hated, needs but to be seen;
Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

Just as the appetite grows by what it feeds upon, so in all probability will familiarity with the seductive pleasures of cocaine spread until its use in the community is enormously greater than it is at present. Is this a prospect to be lightly faced? I think that history will supply an answer, and after all the appeal to history is the real *argumentum ad hominem*. What about the experience of America, of France, of India, and even of China? Can we learn nothing from the tragedies that have made it a penal crime in the United States to send narcotics by post? We have not reached that stage yet, but if mere buying and selling and profit-taking are to govern our actions, why, in the name of all that is sensible, do we have a Poisons Act at all, and why does pharmacy exist if not to protect humanity against itself?

Yours faithfully,
CHEMICUS. (87/18.)

Middlesex Pharmacopœia.

Sir,—In your issue for November 29 Mr. Bailey writes an interesting letter, stating that the pharmacists of Middlesex do not associate themselves with the Pharmacopœia, and that the chemists are not obliged to purchase the card at all, that it is not recognised, and that there is yet no Formulary for the county. May I inform you, and your readers through your valuable journal, that the formulae were concocted by sub-committees of the pharmacists and of the local Medical Committee? The resulting Pharmacopœia was approved by the L.M.C., and I have it in a letter from Mr. Bailey that it was approved by the pharmacists. That is all that is required by the National Health Insurance Act and Regulations. It was certainly submitted to the Middlesex Insurance Committee with a view to getting the formulae inserted in the new Drug Tariff for the county, so as to save the chemists the time and trouble of working out and pricing the various ingredients; but unfortunately one of the medical men on the Insurance Committee is reported to have remarked that "he did not think it had been approved by the L.M.C." This gave the M.I.C. the cue for "deferring the adoption of the Middlesex Pharmacopœia until the Panel Committees met." The deferring can only refer to the incorporation of our Formulary with the Drug Tariff. Beyond that the M.I.C. have no voice; it is for

the doctors and chemists to agree, and they have agreed. It does not seem quite clear why an important body like the M.I.C. should prefer to work upon the thoughts of one of their medical members to accepting the written statement of the Secretary of the L.M.C. One would have expected rather a request for confirmation from the L.M.C., but I do not wish to raise any protest on that point, for it is quite immaterial to the doctors, but the chemists might have found it more convenient to have the formulae incorporated in the Drug Tariff. I quite agree with Mr. Bailey that it is not necessary for the chemists to have the card, but if they have not got one they will have to pass on the prescriptions (or several of them) to someone who has got the Middlesex Pharmacopœia. There is now a Middlesex Pharmacopœia.

Yours faithfully,

H. PRIEST SHANKS,
Hon. Sec., Middlesex Local Medical Committee.

An Appeal to Scottish Pharmacists.

SIR.—With regard to the letter of the Insurance Commissioners (Scotland) of November 10, and the desire of Scottish pharmacists to have the whole matter of dispensing charges settled on a permanent basis during the first quarter of 1914, may I remind panel chemists that the fulfilment of this desire is a matter which rests very much with themselves? Secretaries know that there are on every panel persons who, for various reasons, delay the preparation of their accounts. It is obvious that if one or more chemists in each district do not render their account for, say, two months, it will be extremely difficult for the Commissioners to prepare their figures in time to meet us. It is surely not too much to expect that a special effort be made this quarter, and I would therefore appeal to all Scottish pharmacists to keep their accounts well in hand, so that within two or three days after the close of the present medical year all statements will be completed and in the hands of the Insurance clerks, thus giving the Commissioners ample time for their purpose. Local Secretaries can do much to hasten the returns, but the possibility of an early balance is entirely a matter for the individual chemist.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN WEIR,

Hon. Sec., Dunbartonshire Pharmaceutical Committee.
["Dunbartonshire" is the official form, but Dunbartonshire is the more common spelling.—EDITOR, C. & D.]

The Major Examination.

SIR.—An amusing piece of internal evidence of the importance which the Pharmaceutical Society attach to the Major qualification is afforded by the manner in which the Benevolent Fund voting paper, received this morning, is addressed to subscribers. It is evidently too much trouble for the servants of the Pharmaceutical Society to correctly describe the addressees by their proper designations. Whatever their qualifications, subscribers are all termed "Chemists." If it is not too much trouble to acquire by examination from the Society the right to the title "Pharmaceutical Chemist," it should not be too much trouble for the Secretary to see that his subordinates take the trouble to use the title on the rare occasions when it is necessary to send out official communications.

Yours, etc.,

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST (40/54.)

The Introduction of Saffron into England.

SIR.—I see that "Xrayser II." places the introduction of *Crocus sativus* into England in the reign of Edward VI. and attributes it to the Secretary of State under that king. The Secretary in question was no doubt Sir Thomas Smith, who was a native of Saffron Walden, and did much for his native town, but his biographer, Strype, declines to credit him with this particular gift. His words are:

"Sir Thomas Smith was born 1512 at Walden, in the County of Essex, distinguished by the name of Saffron Walden, the lands of that parish and the parts adjacent being famous for the growth of that useful medicinal plant; whether first brought thither by this Knight's industry (being a great planter) I know not, for it was first brought into England, as we are told, in the reign of King Edward III."

This agrees with Camden and with every authority I know, down to the latest edition of the "Encyclopædia

Britannica." Canon Ellacombe, indeed, says, in an important article on Saffron in his "Plant-lore and Garden-craft of Shakespeare," that it is said to have been introduced by Sir Thomas Smith in the time of Edward III.; but this is clearly a blunder, unless there was another Sir Thomas Smith at that time, and I can find no trace of one in any history of the county from Morant downwards. Flückiger and Hanbury also give the reign of Edward III. as the time when saffron is said to have been first grown here, but they again have no definite authority for the statement. It is clear, however, from their article on the subject that as early as 1565 English saffron was more highly esteemed, both at home and on the Continent, than any other, which does not seem likely to have been the case if it had not been cultivated here before Edward VI.'s time. Hakluyt says the bulbs were reported at Saffron Walden itself to have been brought over secretly by a pilgrim in his staff, but this is too like the story of the introduction of opium into China. I cannot ascertain when the name Cheping Walden was altered to Saffron Walden; perhaps some local antiquary can tell us and thus narrow the field of inquiry. Saffron, I may add, is still an article of food in Cornwall, and possibly elsewhere. A friend tells me that some time since her Cornish cook made her a saffron cake as a great delicacy, but it proved ungrateful to a London palate and had to be disposed of surreptitiously, little by little, to save the woman's feelings.

Yours, etc.,

C. C. BELL.

Parcel-post to Nicaragua.

SIR.—You were so good to publish in your issue of April 26 my remarks about the necessity of a direct parcel-post between the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua and England. I received afterwards several business offers, together with the statement that a service had been established between the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua and your country via the Pacific, the packages going via Colon-Panama to the Pacific Coast of Nicaragua and from there overland back to the Atlantic Coast. Allow me to observe that such a service is nonsensical and useless. The packages take from three and a half to five months until they arrive in Bluefields, while they could be there in three weeks; then, as pointed out in your issue of April 26, there is no guarantee for the very possible case of loss. Only a few weeks ago, in September, two mailbags got lost on the Pacific between Panama and Corinto. For each of the 200 lost certified letters \$10 in depreciated Nicaragua paper currency will be refunded; \$12 $\frac{1}{2}$ of this money is worth 1 U.S. dollar, consequently for each lost certified letter 80 cents in gold will be paid, but for the packages absolutely nothing will be refunded. What sane man will get supplies by such a connection? Germany is establishing a direct parcel-post to here by the Hamburg American line, and the United States has for years been doing a flourishing business here in this way. Only England is staying behind, yet there are people in your country who are constantly blowing what and how much is done to foster Great Britain's foreign trade!

Yours very truly,

CARLOS BERGER.

Public Dispensers of Physic.

SIR.—Mr. Trayner accuses me of wandering from the point at issue, which was the employment in the dispensaries of public institutions under the Poor Law of "unqualified persons who had not submitted themselves to examination." I quite agree with him that it is a lamentable fact that no legal decision has been given on this. But as no public or private body would entertain the idea of engaging an unqualified person to prescribe the medicines, or supply medicines or appliances not of approved quality, why should they employ "unqualified persons who had not submitted themselves to examination" for the highly important work of dispensing the medicines? This principle has been recognised by a very large number of public bodies, and has also been adopted by the authors of the Insurance Act. It is, indeed, very questionable whether the dispensary of a public institution could not be legally regarded as an open shop, as the medicines supplied are undoubtedly paid for, either in the form of subscriptions, rates, or other ways, and in

some institutions a small charge is actually made. And is it not particularly necessary that the working classes, who are the patients at the public pharmacies, should have the best obtainable attention in order that they may be able to resume at the earliest opportunity their struggle for existence?

Yours truly,

R. WELFORD.

[Our correspondent discusses at further length the incidence of the Pharmacy Acts upon dispensing in public institutions. This we have omitted, in view of the fact that the Pharmaceutical Council many years ago took counsel's opinion on the subject, and were advised that hospitals, infirmaries, and similar establishments are not open shops within the meaning of the 1868 Act.—EDITOR, C. & D.]

The Need of a Union.

SIR,—I quite agree with the main points of "Oliver Twist's" sensible letter on the need of federation, but what is required also is a Union of all qualified managers and assistants, backed up by all chemists already in business for themselves. The main object of the Union would be, not to act in any way detrimental to chemists, but as a curb and restraint on company octopuses. It is patent that without qualified men companies would not be able to keep open shop. Therefore, by combination the Union would be able to come to terms with companies not only as to their not opening more branches, but also, and more particularly, to improve the status of qualified men. Companies now are importing American methods, and their policy for the future appears to be to reduce the qualified man to simply a "drug clerk" in charge of a drug counter, and a shop-walker as boss of the store. I am sure there is great unrest among company qualified men, and it only wants a match to start a conflagration. When bricklayers, coalheavers, and scavengers have unions, surely qualified chemists can have one for their own protection.

Yours faithfully,
NON DUBITAT. (39/43.)

Experienced Unqualified Men

SIR,—I cannot refrain from asking you to kindly publish the following in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. The purport of this letter is to convey to your mind that which exists at the present time between the qualified inexperienced chemist and the unqualified experienced man. Is it not time that some society was formed to recognise the experienced unqualified man, and to prevent him from tolerating the abuses and insults which frequently take place due to the fact that the inexperienced qualified chemist has undergone an Edinburgh examination—too frightened to face London, the centre of the world? There are many inexperienced qualified chemists who, if brought face to face with the experienced unqualified man, would, I venture to say, be a disgrace to pharmacy. Do you not think, Sir, that it is high time that ability should be recognised, and something done towards those poor unqualified individuals having to bear the taunts and insulting style of non-experienced qualified chemists?

Faithfully yours,
E. R. (10/66.)

Pharmacy Act Offences.

SIR,—I am sure that the bulk of the members of the Pharmaceutical Society would dissociate themselves from the drastic measures which the Council are pursuing in slight lapses from the strict letter of the Pharmacy Act committed by chemists. I have suffered myself for petty falls from the strict path. I once left a man in charge, and he afterwards received the usual letter from the Society's solicitors, and on the same day notice to present himself for his "Minor," which he successfully negotiated. He paid the fine, thinking non-payment might lessen his chance of success. The Society has got no more of that man's money. I have been watched until I went out of my place of business, and assistants and apprentices tempted to sell patents containing scheduled poisons. On one occasion, early in the morning, before the shop-assistants arrived, the charwoman was tempted to sell poison, the purchaser being willing to help her to select the article, as the poor charwoman could not read. . . . These persecutions are making enemies to the Society, for I am certain that no

chemist is exempt from these unnecessary attentions; I am also certain that wherever a chance can be had the penalty is enforced. I fearlessly assert that the means adopted to secure cases are such as no other Society worthy of the name would stoop to use.

Yours truly,

MINOR GRADUATE. (15/41.)

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Blast Ointment.

In reply to "L.P.S.I." inquiry re "Blast Ointment," I have been asked for same, and supply ung. hydrarg. dil. It is commonly asked for in agricultural districts, being used for blasts in cattle (a localism in King's County).—J. B. Faichney.

On looking up an old C. & D. Diary (1894) I found among synonyms given for blast ointment that ung. resinæ was generally sold, and I myself, when serving my apprenticeship in the West of Ireland, gave ung. resinæ. In other places I was in ung. sambuci vir. was given.—J. S. Gilbert, L.P.S.I.

Appreciations.

"We look upon you as the chemists' friend."—(83/32.)

"The services rendered by you from week to week may not formally be acknowledged, but I personally, and I know others, greatly appreciate the service you render to us. Points, often minor ones, are explained that cause us difficulty, and all you get is an inward 'Thank you.' You will long ere now have realised this, and, like many of us, plod on, do our duty, and leave the thanks to accumulate."—(21/43.)

Passing the Minor in Different Stages.

Your remarks on the above subject in a recent issue are very appropriate and to the point. Now that modifications and alterations are in evidence, nothing would be more popular than this idea of allowing candidates to pass the examination at no more than three times. I would go further and suggest that an examination be held, say, twice a year in either Liverpool or Manchester; both these towns are midway between Edinburgh and London. It would be a great boon to candidates, not only as regards the money saved in unnecessary travelling and hotel expenses, but of valuable time. I remember some years ago that Mr. Rymer Young, at a Liverpool function, strongly advocated this idea, and was confident that it would be approved of by the Council in the near future, but I have heard nothing about the matter since. In the interest of thousands of Minor students from Lancashire, Yorkshire, and nearly the whole of Wales, besides other districts, I claim that this is a real grievance that should be remedied, and if acted upon it can be confidently prophesied that the number of candidates will be very much up, and so counteract the serious difficulty chemists are experiencing to-day as regards qualified assistants.—Lancastrian (62/10).

Legal Queries.

Before writing about your difficulty consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1913, pp. 211-242 and pp. 457-459, where most legal difficulties are anticipated.

Cum (36/33).—What you propose to do is quite legal.

Brightside (92/21).—Notice to quit premises in England, the tenancy of which commenced on December 25, has to be given six months before that date recurring.

G. Y. (40/8).—It is not possible for a person other than a registered chemist or limited company to get on the dispensing panel under the National Insurance Act. The privilege that doctors' dispensers of three years' experience up to the time that the Act passed have is to dispense for a panel chemist without qualified supervision.

Perplexed (40/17).—You must close your place of business at 1 P.M. until midnight for at least one day in the week. If there is no local order fixing the day, you can choose your own day. If you decide to serve customers with medicines and medical and surgical appliances, or any other exempted goods, during the closing hours, you must exhibit two cards—one outside the shop or immediately inside the window, and another in the shop. For medicines and medical appliances the card published by THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST meets the case.

Insurance Dispensing Queries.

ADRENINE AND COCAINE SUPPOSITORIES.—*H. H. C.* (39/50) sends in a detailed pricing for these suppositories, making the charge for ingredients 1s. 1d., or with dispensing-fee a total of 1s. 7d. He asks us how we arrive at the price given in our last week's issue. [The only difference between the two pricings relates to adrenaline, which we took at 2s. per grain and our correspondent at 2s. 8d. In the standard price-lists adrenaline is unfortunately not always listed. We now find that 2s. 4d. per grain is quoted in the wholesale list upon which the Drug Tariff was based.]

DISPENSING IN RURAL AREAS.—*Alcos* (36/12) tells us of a man who used to live about two miles out of the town, and who belonged to a branch of a village club, where he was attended by a doctor who also supplied the medicine under the Rural Area agreement. Afterwards the man removed into the town and still keeps up his payments to the village branch, but lives within a mile of the chemist. The doctor says he can continue to supply the man with medicine. [The doctor is right. We published in this volume, index folio 572, a ruling by the Commissioners on the point, stating that the doctors may continue to supply the medicine until the expiration of the period for which such arrangements had been made. This principle is embodied in the revised Regulations.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

Kimiz (31/41).—(1) Dr. W. H. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, London, W., publishes a useful pamphlet on soil analysis which may suit your customer to begin with. (2) CHILDREN'S POWDERS containing calomel and sugar of milk of each 1½ grain and tartrated antimony ½ grain are good. The griping that you mention as occasionally happening is most probably due to the subject being so bilious that the calomel does its duty, and the flow of bile induces intestinal gripes.

Printers' Ink (8/15).—The diluent and fixing liquid for printers' ink, when used on enamelled paper, consists mainly of painters' terebene. There is, however, an insoluble ingredient present which we cannot identify. This may be the "fixing" agent to which your customer refers.

C. A. (30/33).—SHOWCARD INK.—Alternative formulae which can be used in place of the recipe given in the *C. & D.*, November 15, index folio 756, are ivory black rubbed down smooth with mucilage of acacia and water, Brunswick black, and straw-hat polish. These substances are employed by ticket-writers to obtain glossy black lettering.

J. W. H. (30/9).—LIMITED COMPANIES' ACCOUNTS.—Most publications on bookkeeping deal with the books to be kept by limited companies. Munro's "Bookkeeping Down to Date" (Wilson, Threadneedle Street, London, E.C., 3s. 6d.) is a recent work.

Tum-Tum (24/41).—RED COLOURING FOR ACID MIXTURE.—You will find Cudbear a satisfactory colour for this. Read reply to a similar inquiry in the *C. & D.*, November 22, index folio 790.

G. D. M. (25/39).—PARAFFIN SOAP.—The class of soap containing paraffin, a sample of which you send, is generally made by the addition of petroleum in the course of manufacture. The following, however, is a method which can be employed to make this detergent soap on a small scale:

Yellow soap	...	...	...	5 parts
Paraffin oil	...	...	...	2½ parts
Paraffin wax	...	...	...	2 parts
Methylated spirit	...	...	...	2½ parts

Melt the wax and mix with the soap, previously melted on a water-bath with sufficient water. When incorporated remove from the source of heat, and stir in the paraffin oil and spirit.

J. E. N. (25/69).—PURIFICATION OF ACETYLENE.—Several chemical purifiers are employed in the manufacture of acetylene, but the one to which your customer refers is apparently "Puratylene," a mixture of bleaching-powder,

lime, and calcium chloride. This is especially intended for the removal of phosphuretted hydrogen. It is possible that chlorinated lime, alone or mixed with lime, would answer the purpose. An objection has been urged against this method on account of the traces of chlorine which may be left in the gas.

J. C. (250/55).—PHOTOGRAPHIC HARDENING SOLUTION.—We cannot recognise this. Formalin is generally employed, and is diluted as you suggest. Spirit alone, which you say is employed as the diluent, has considerable hardening effect on gelatin.

J. L. (27/14).—COTTON-WOOL OR FILTER-PAPER IS EMPLOYED AS ABSORBENTS FOR THE MEDICAMENTS IN ORO-NASAL INHALERS.

A. H. (75/4).—BOOKS ON HORSE MANAGEMENT.—The following are good: E. S. Hamilton's "Stable Manual and Horse Doctor" (Simpkin, Marshall, 1904); G. Fleming's "Practical Horse-keeper" (Upcott Gill, 1900); Captain M. H. Hayes' "Veterinary Notes for Horse-owners" (Hurst & Blackett, 1906).

A. C. H. (243/46).—DISTEMPER-POWDER FOR CATS.—We cannot identify this with certainty. It has some of the characteristics of a dilution of chinosol with sugar of milk, but cats are particularly susceptible to the toxic effects of chinosol, so that we bar its presence.

Pertussis (New South Wales) (26/29).—(1) SYR. THYMI CO.—The liquid extract of thyme required in the formula given in the *C. & D.*, September 6, index folio 407, is a 1-in-1 preparation made by percolation with a mixture of glycerin 3 parts, alcohol (95-per-cent.) 17 parts. See THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST DIARY, 1914, p. 216. The virtues of wild and garden thyme are similar, but according to some herbalists not identical. (2) TREATMENT OF WHOOPING-COUGH.—Latham's "Dictionary of Medical Treatment" sums up the modern treatment as follows:

The best routine treatment in the great majority of cases is antipyrine (which may, if necessary, be combined with ammonium bromide or heroin). For a child six months old the dose is 1 grain every three hours, and then every two hours; for a child two years old, 2 gr. every four hours, and then every two hours. Should pneumonia set in, the antipyrene should be discontinued. . . . In older children, perhaps the best results are obtained by the use of quinine in full doses, 12 to 15 gr. being given daily to a child of five. If the paroxysms are not yielding to the efficient trial of the above remedies, the best drug is belladonna. It must not be given if the temperature is high or if serious complications are present, and to be of value must be pushed. A child of three may receive 10m of tincture of belladonna every four hours, and then every two hours if necessary, or ½ gr. of atropine may be given in the same way, until the pupil dilates or delirium sets in, when its use should be stopped for a time and smaller doses substituted. Bromoform is recommended by some authorities (1 to 3m for two years, 2 to 4m for five years, five times a day). It is best given in capsules or on sugar. Full doses should be used with caution; and if given in emulsion care must be taken to shake the bottle, as cases of poisoning have occurred owing to lack of this precaution.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," December 15, 1863.

Orange Quinine Wine.

The following letter in reply to a query has been received from the Inland Revenue Office:

"Inland Revenue Office, 3rd of December, 1863.

"SIR.—Having laid before the Board your letter of the 10th ult., requesting information respecting the sale of medicated wines, with special reference to orange quinine wine, I am desired to acquaint you that the Board are advised that whenever these articles are held out by label or advertisement as beneficial to persons suffering from any ailment affecting the human body, they can only legally be sold under a patent medicine licence, and with a stamped label on each package, and also, in strictness, under an Excise Foreign or British wine licence, according to the character of the wine. The Board, however, have instructed me to add, that except in cases where there may be reason to believe that a beverage is being sold under colour of a medicine, they will not interfere with the sale without an Excise licence of medicated wines of the description adverted to, provided such medicines do not fall under the category of patent medicines.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
WILLIAM CORBETT, Secretary'

NEW BOOKS.

Any of these books printed in the United Kingdom can be supplied, at the published price, to "C. & D." subscribers on application (with remittance) to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. These notes do not exclude subsequent reviews.

Collected Papers from the Research Laboratory of Parke, Davis & Co., Detroit, Mich. Vol. I. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. [Consists of reprints of thirty papers contributed to various journals by workers in Parke, Davis & Co.'s research laboratories. These include papers on insecticides, animal therapy, serum treatment, sleepy grass of New Mexico, Cannabis sativa, physiological testing, and catgut sterilisation. It is a valuable and interesting collection of reprints.]

Cook, M. T. *The Diseases of Tropical Plants.* $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. xi+317. 8s. 6d. net. (Macmillan.) [This work on tropical plant diseases will be useful in temperate as well as in tropical climates. After dealing with the nature and symptoms of diseases and the structure and functions of plants, there are chapters on the classification of fungi and other causes of plant diseases. The bulk of the work is taken up by monographs dealing with the diseases of each species of plant separately. Those of special interest to drug-cultivators relate to citrus fruits, papaw, fig, olive, coffee, tea and cocoa, pepper, vanilla, clove, ginger, and nutmeg. The book ends with chapters on the prevention and control of diseases, and on fungicides and spraying apparatus.]

Fieldhouse, A. and E. E. *Income-tax Simplified.* $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 65. 2nd ed. 1s. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.) [This is a practical guide to the preparation of the return for assessment and instructions for obtaining repayment of income-tax. The author has succeeded in being both concise and lucid in his explanation of an involved subject.]

Moore, M. C. *Fighting the Enemies of the Shopkeeper.* $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 55. 6d. (The Drapers' Record, Ltd.) [Deals with co-operative stores, discount societies, clothing clubs, trading stamps, free travel schemes, bazaars, and cash-on-delivery post. The pamphlet is written in a vigorous style, and the author gives suggestions for coping with the various evils mentioned.]

Notes on the Therapeutics of Radium in the Bath Waters. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. [A pamphlet compiled by the Director of the mineral springs at Bath, and founded on the investigations of Sir William Ramsay, whose report occupies about half the booklet. It is well produced and is written for the use of medical men.]

Perkin, W. H., and Kipping, F. S. *Organic Chemistry.* $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 664+xx. 7s. 6d. (Chambers.) [The revised edition still consists conveniently of two parts, relating to the chemistry of the paraffins and benzene series respectively, but the subject-matter of a former appendix is now incorporated in the body of the work. The important additions include chapters dealing with the Guignard reaction and configuration of some of the carbohydrates, especial attention being devoted throughout the work to questions of the constitution of organic compounds.]

Physiological Reports. The Wellcome Physiological Research Laboratories have issued the following reprints: *The Identity of Trimethylhistidine (Histidine-Bataine) from Various Sources*, by G. Barger, M.A., D.Sc., and A. J. Ewins, B.Sc. *The Use of Litmus-paper as a Quantitative Indicator of Reaction*, by G. S. Walpole, D.Sc., F.I.C. *A Modification of Diphtheria Antitoxin*, by A. T. Glenny, B.Sc. *On the Action of Ergotoxin, with Special Reference to the Existence of Sympathetic Vasodilators, and The Effect of Varying Tonicity on the Anaphylactic and other Reactions of Plain Muscle*, by H. H. Dale, M.A., M.D. *Gas Electrode for General Use*, by G. S. Walpole, D.Sc., F.I.C. *The Rate of Reproduction of Various Constituents of the Blood of an Immunised Horse after a Large Bleeding*, by R. A. O'Brien, M.D. *Some Examples of the Effect of Asymmetric Nitrogen Atoms on Physiological Activity*, by P. P. Laidlaw, M.A., B.C. *The Reversal of "Irreversible" Hydrosols Aggregated by Traces of "Protective" Colloids*, by G. S. Walpole.

Ricardou, J. M. *Etude Pharmaceutique du Sirop d'Iodine de Fer et des ses Composants.* $9\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 208. (Malone, 25-27 Rue de l'Ecole de Médecine, Paris.) [Iron, iodine, and iodide of iron are first treated historically and then chemically. Next the author traces by means of various formulae the evolution of the liquors and syrups of iodide of iron. He proposes two recipes for the syrup—strong and weak—and uses syrup of glucose as the base. The assay of the iodide and its syrup is also dealt with.]

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

Certified Advertising has been suggested by Mr. H. H. Cushman in the "Northwestern Druggist." The plan is for the advertiser to incorporate in his advertisement a sworn statement to the effect that the statements made in the advertisement are true. In the case of a manufactured article, an additional affidavit is supplied by the factory superintendent. It is generally thought that this plan will make advertising worth more to the advertiser by eliminating deception and exaggeration, thereby creating a greater degree of confidence in the mind of the reader.

Local Associations.—Among the annual meetings in November of local Associations in the United States was that of the Pharmaceutical Association of Arizona. Arizona is the youngest State in the Union, and its pharmacy law is one of the most modern—it is dated May 17, 1913. The Association has the advantage of possessing a very energetic Secretary-Treasurer in the person of Mr. Thos. E. Thorpe, who learnt the drug business in Ireland and still takes an active interest in the doings of the United Kingdom. Mr. H. Brisley, the retiring President, delivered an address in which he referred to the many restrictions placed on the trade, and also advocated co-operation in place of competition. Other papers were on women in pharmacy and on biologic products.—The Kansas City Association of Retail Druggists held its meeting on November 18. Among the papers was one by Mr. A. N. Doerschuk (the President) on "Three Pernicious Drugs of Coal-tar Origin in General Use." These were methylene blue, pyoctanin, and phenolphthalein.

CANADIAN NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

PARCEL-POST.—The Dominion Postmaster-General has announced that a system of parcel-post on the zone principle will be established in Canada on January 1.

MR. THOMAS REID, sales manager of the Walpole Rubber Co., of Montreal, who died suddenly last month, was formerly connected with the business of Lyman, Sons & Co. and the Davis Lawrence Drug Co. He was born in Knowlton in 1861.

MONTREAL LAND SALES.—The City of Montreal recently sold some blocks of vacant land in their possession and realised high prices. The National Drug and Chemical Co. of Canada, Ltd., Montreal, bought some of the largest blocks for the purpose of erecting new buildings for their growing business requirements.

SALE OF ALCOHOL.—The Excise Department of the Province of Ontario are looking sharply after offenders under the Liquor Licence Act. In Toronto two druggists have been prosecuted, and one was fined \$100 for selling alcohol. A London druggist has also paid the fine of \$100. There is a provision in the Act by which pharmacists may sell alcohol only when it is required in case of accident or fainting, and then in quantities of not more than 6 oz. There is no appeal against the fine, and the "Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal" advises druggists not to sell liquor at all.

MEDICAL ACT AMENDMENT.—According to the "Journal of the American Medical Association," the Government of Alberta is considering an amendment to the Medical Act of that province in order to induce physicians to settle in the more thinly populated parts of the province. The amendment proposes that medical men entering the province who are qualified to take the prescribed examinations be granted an interim licence, providing they are prepared to settle at least twenty miles from the nearest physician. When the examinations arrive, if candidates fail in one or more subjects the interim licence will be extended for six months in order that they may prepare for re-examination in the subjects they failed in.

TUNISIAN BEESWAX.—The exports from the Regency of Tunis during 1912 amounted to 93 metric tons (11,159 $\frac{1}{2}$), against 75 tons (9,001 $\frac{1}{2}$) in 1911. The bulk went to France; some to Belgium and Germany.

Transvaal News.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Simon Grossmann, who passed the Minor at the last Edinburgh examination, is from Jeppes-ton, Johannesburg.

PHARMACY BOARD ELECTION.—A special meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society was announced to be held on November 20 to hear the views of the various candidates, all of whom had consented to address the meeting.

SOOTHERS.—The crusade against the use of baby-comforters has spread to Johannesburg, as the result of lectures on the care and feeding of infants at the Domestic Science Progress. Surgical and first-aid materials have been lent by Dinwoodie's Drug-stores to illustrate the lectures.

GOVERNMENT SALARIES.—The recent notice of a vacancy for a qualified chemist at the Pretoria Leper Asylum, which was referred to in the *C. & D.* of October 25, offering a salary of 12*l.* per month, has roused local action among chemists, and Mr. Tibbitt (President of the Pretoria branch of the Pharmaceutical Society) has been in communication with the Government, who have asked for information regarding local salaries for qualified and unqualified men.

THE HANNAH CASE.—Mr. T. Hannah has written to the Privy Council applying for leave to appeal in the matter of *Hannah v. Rex*. A record of the case is being sent to the Privy Council by the Registrar of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of South Africa, Bloemfontein. Mr. Hannah has, firstly, to obtain leave to appeal to the Privy Council, before the appeal itself is heard, and is conducting his case under difficulties, as he is not acquainted with procedure.

SHOP HOURS.—The Pharmaceutical Society's recommendations, which have previously been referred to in the *C. & D.*, have been adopted by the Provincial Council, and on and after January 1, 1914, chemists' hours will be as under: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 8 A.M. to 7 P.M.; Wednesdays, 8 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 6 to 7 P.M.; Saturdays, 8 A.M. to 9 P.M.; Sundays and holidays, 11 A.M. to 12 noon and 6 to 7 P.M. The assistants are further protected by the fifty-two hours a week clause.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—Mr. A. Anderson, of Belgrave, Johannesburg, has opened a branch at Troyville, Johannesburg. Mr. Speedie, who has been associated with Petersen & Co. for fifteen years, nine of which he spent as manager at Oudtshorn, Cape Province, will be manager of the branch.—Mr. D. Dawson has purchased the business of Mr. J. Murdoch at the corner of Fuller Street and Kimberley Road, Bertrams.—Mr. Murray, late of Messrs. Bones & Co., Pretoria, has succeeded to the business of Mr. Levine, of Turffontein, Johannesburg, who shortly leaves for New York.

Efficiency in Marketing.

A LARGE GATHERING of persons interested in advertising assembled in Kingsway Hall, London, on December 1, under the chairmanship of Lord Desborough. The occasion was the inauguration of a movement "to promote efficiency in advertising and selling," in which the International Correspondence Schools are the prime movers. The Chairman explained that the essence of the movement is an attempt to elevate the science and art of bringing buyer and seller together to the advantage of both. He announced receipt of letters and telegrams from well-known men who were unable to be present. An address on "Advertising and Selling as a Career" was given by Mr. Thomas Russell, President of the Incorporated Society of Advertisement Consultants, who pointed out that the importance of the selling element in business is being recognised more and more. "Business science" is now being seriously suggested as a University subject. In Germany and in the United States technical courses and special Universities of Commerce have already been established. With the advantages of the new American tariff, lowering costs of production, the United States will be fighting us for the supremacy of the world's markets. Efficient salesmanship has already enabled Americans almost to monopolise in this country the trade in many articles which might just as well be produced here—e.g., type-

writers, cash-registers, safety-razors, breakfast foods, cameras, fountain pens, and shaving-soaps ("to say nothing of pills"). Efficient marketing reduces the expense of selling goods, and one of the most useful elements of it is honest and well-managed advertising. Modern advertising men use scientific devices to detect the relative efficiency of various modes of advertising. These methods were illustrated by lantern-slides of tabulated figures, result-curves, and coloured charts, interspersed with samples of advertising—ancient and modern. The first slide showed a brick from Pompeii, on which were various figures and hieroglyphics, said to be an advertisement. Then came Dr. Johnson's article on the high excellence to which advertising had attained—in 1757. An advertisement of one hundred years later dealt with a preparation for the destruction of "buggs," sold by Mary Southall. Many good points were made by Mr. Russell in the course of his talk illustrative of the way in which advertising has not only popularised certain articles now in common use, but has lowered the price to the consumer considerably. He incidentally mentioned that of all countries in the world soap is more advertised here than anywhere, and we are the largest consumers of soap, the average working out at 21 lb. of soap per head per annum. Advertising does not raise the cost of the goods to the public; it is paid for out of the saving in the selling expense. Votes of thanks to Mr. Russell and to Lord Desborough closed a very successful meeting.

COMING EVENTS.

This section of the "C. & D." is reserved for advance notices of meetings or other events. These should be sent to the Editor by Wednesday of the week before the meetings, etc., occur.

Friday, December 5.
Northampton Polytechnic Institute, St. John Street, Clerkenwell, London, E.C., at 6.30 P.M. Annual prize-distribution by Mr. Cyril S. Cobb, Chairman of the London County Council.

Tuesday, December 9.
Oval Pharmaceutical Association, Café Monico, Union Street, at 3 P.M. Address by Mr. W. J. U. Woocock.

Wednesday, December 10.
Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C., at 8 P.M. Mr. T. Thorne Baker on "The Application of Electricity to Agriculture and Life."

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, 36 York Place, at 8.30 P.M. Communication by Mr. W. B. Cowie, Ph.C., F.C.S.

Liverpool and Birkenhead Chemists' Associations, Bear's Paw Restaurant, Lord Street, Liverpool. Smoking-concert in aid of the Benevolent Fund.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Pharmacists' Association, Hôtel Métropole, Clayton Street West, at 7.30 P.M. Annual dinner. Mr. E. T. Neatheront will represent the Pharmaceutical Society. Tickets (4s. 6d. each) from Mr. W. Pescod.

Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association, Victoria Station Hotel, at 8 P.M. Mr. H. G. Howson on "Soap Manufacture."

Western Pharmacists' Association, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford Street, London, W., at 9 P.M. Meeting.

Society of Pharmacy and Drug-Store Proprietors, Victoria Hotel, Leeds, at 7.15 P.M. Smoking-concert and presentation to Mr. J. O'Grady, M.P.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society, Literary and Philosophical Society's Rooms, Church Street, at 9 P.M. Dr. Balfour McKean, M.D., on "Vaccines and Sera."

Thursday, December 11.
Chemists' Assistants' Association, Crown Room, Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., at 7.30 P.M. Cinderella dance. Tickets (single 5s. 6d., double 10s., including supper) from Mr. A. Haigh, The Dispensary, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., or Mr. W. P. Styles, 11 Brunswick Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

North London Pharmacists' Association, St. Padarn's Hall, Gloucester Road, Seven Sisters Road, N., at 3.30 P.M. Mr. John Noble will give a demonstration of dispensing methods.

Hull Pharmacists' Association, Grosvenor Hotel, Carr Lane, at 8 P.M. Annual dinner. Tickets (4s. each) from Mr. Walter Stanier, Hon. Secretary.

DUNDEE CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' AND APPRENTICES' ASSOCIATION.—A social musical evening is to be held in the F. and K. Halls (off Wellgate) on December 17 at 7.30, when there will be music, whist, and dancing. Tickets (2s. 6d. each) can be obtained from Mr. A. Soutar, Royal Infirmary.

ALFRED BRAITHWAITE EMANUEL (60), described as a chemist, was at the West London Police Court on Thursday, December 4, found guilty of obtaining money by false pretences. In the name of Freeman & Co. he sent letters to executors of deceased persons asking for payment of a small sum in respect of a supposed purchase of his hair-stimulant made by the dead person shortly before death. The executors, as a rule, did not question the claim. Emanuel was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.